

## Johnson County Emergency Operations Center Press Release 10/29/2020

## Johnson County School District #1 Fall/Winter Sports Spectators

As of 10:00am October 29, 2020, the Wyoming Department of Health reports 50 active cases of COVID-19 in Johnson County. From the start of the pandemic to date, there have been 78 lab confirmed cases, along with 34 probable cases in Johnson County. Probable cases are those that become sick while on quarantine and are assumed a probable case with no lab confirmed test. There are currently 109 patients hospitalized in Wyoming hospitals, with 1 COVID-19 hospitalization in Johnson County.

The Johnson County Incident Management Team has discussed the reality of fall/winter sports at Johnson County School District #1. Together, the agency stakeholders have made the decision to only allow 2 parents/caregivers as spectators to Basketball and Wrestling events, following strict masking and social distancing protocol. Parents **will not** be admitted without a face covering. There will be no fans from the opposing school districts. We realize this may cause an inconvenience to some, but the goal is to have our schools open to in person learning, and this move will prove invaluable in preventing further spread of COVID-19. For live streaming of these sporting events, visit <a href="https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/">https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/</a>.

Johnson County is striving to remain proactive to maintain our low number of positive cases of COVID-19. Community transmission is occurring in our county. We are asking residents to understand that this public health emergency not only affects those dealing with the virus, but the community as a whole. Staffing issues are being reported in many businesses due to the need to quarantine workers. Johnson County Healthcare Center currently has 8 inpatients, with 1 being positive for COVID-19. As the cases rise in our region, it is becoming increasingly difficult for the hospital to transfer patients to higher levels of care. This could mean heart attack victims, broken bones, and those on ventilators may not receive the urgent care they need if the hospital is overwhelmed and understaffed.

The Johnson County Incident Management Team urges mask use and social distancing. Data is growing more and more confident that masking is helping slow the spread of COVID-19. There has been a handful of cases in the school district, and little to no spread has been evident. We thank school leaders for setting the example.

Don't forget to vote next week! The county clerk's office has been busy preparing for a safe voting day! It is recommended to wear a face covering to the polls and maintain social distancing. Poll workers will be sanitizing surfaces and wearing a face covering. If you have any questions on voting issues, please contact the Johnson County Clerk's office at 684-7272.

For the most up to date numbers of COVID-19 cases, please visit <u>health.wyo.gov</u> and click on COVID-19.

For the most current information, please visit <a href="www.johnsoncountywyoming.org/covid-19">www.johnsoncountywyoming.org/covid-19</a>.

Johnson County COVID-19 specific email: <a href="jcwycovid19eoc@gmail.com">jcwycovid19eoc@gmail.com</a>.

For further questions, contact the Johnson County Emergency Operations Center: 307-425-6560.