

Monday Message

Oct. 19, 2020



President's Message:

Dear Campus Community,

We are now a little over five weeks away from the Thanksgiving holiday. I continue to be proud of the hard work and efforts to adapt and innovate, evidenced by faculty, staff and most especially students, in order to make this semester possible. As anticipated, we have managed several cases of COVID-19 so far and quite likely there will be more. That said, because our campus community has, in large measure, been uniform in its commitment to complying with safety protocols, guidelines and directives, we have been able to continue moving forward, while meeting the needs of those who have been unfortunate enough to contract the virus.

As you know, our [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) displays general information specific to confirmed and active cases, as well as the number of students in isolation in LC State residence facilities – a key metric tied to our [operational levels matrix](#) because it reflects our capacity to accommodate on-campus students safely, while meeting their food and housing needs. Important to understanding the dashboard numbers are the definitional elements associated with Public Health confirmation of a case; and the fact that daily case status can and does ebb and flow as time periods associated with quarantine and/or isolation elapse. Additionally, it is important to note that with nearly every confirmed case of COVID-19, there is at least one close contact to that case. Recall that a close contact is someone who was within six feet of someone else who has a confirmed case of COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes without wearing a face covering. True to what we have said since the beginning, in terms of health and safety as primary drivers of our choices and actions, and consistent with CDC guidance, people who are close contacts are quarantined for 14 days. Close contacts are not a part of our dashboard, but we do notify faculty/staff and make arrangements to accommodate remote living needs and campus/class engagement.

Our protocol compliance and communication plan have been working. Even when students experience general symptoms of illness (whether related to COVID-19 or just a sniffle) most are calling-in (e.g., using the COVID-19 hotline, contacting faculty, supervisors, etc.) and refraining from coming to campus. **This is exactly what we want people to do!** In all cases, when someone has called-in and/or when we get a report that someone is ill or has come in contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case, we engage in data collection with those individuals and review where they have been on campus and whether they and those around them have been compliant with our protocols. We notify potentially impacted faculty and staff so that individuals can be accommodated in terms of classroom engagement and living needs. We also consult with Public Health, seeking their input, advice and best practice guidance.

This has not been an easy semester for any of us. COVID-19 has added a layer of complexity to our efforts, and hours of additional work. I can only say again, thank you to all who are working tirelessly to take us one day farther down our shared path. Our college's long tradition of tenacity and perseverance has been truly tested by current circumstances.

I close this message sharing the words of our governor during last week's press conference: **"Our personal actions work better to slow the spread of coronavirus than anything else. Our personal actions are free of cost and a minor sacrifice relative to the rewards,"** Governor Little said. **"This is about personal responsibility – something Idaho is all about. Wear a mask. Watch your distance from others. Wash your hands. Do these things so our kids can stay in school, our loved ones stay safe, and our economy can continue to prosper."**

Events

- **Oct. 20 – Tuesdays at Two** – President Pemberton’s Tuesdays at Two continue through Zoom (<https://lcsc.zoom.us/j/861031866>). All are welcome to join the conversation.
 - **Oct. 23 – Schweitzer CTE Center Ribbon Cutting** – [Read the news release](#) for full details.
 - **Oct. 30 – LC Family Halloween Costume Parade** – LC State families of faculty, staff and students ages 0-10 can enjoy a safe socially distanced parade, music, and a clean goodie bag. Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to cheer on registered trick or treaters between the 2:30-5 p.m. The parade will go from the 4th Street parking lot to the Library lawn. To register and for more details visit www.lcsc.edu/aslcsc/lc-family-costume-parade. The registration deadline is Oct. 27 at 5 p.m.
 - **Nov. 5 – Ask & Answer** – Mark your calendar, President Pemberton will host Ask & Answer on Thursday, Nov. 5, from noon-1 p.m. (<https://lcsc.zoom.us/j/98036081807>, password: 513884)
-

Announcements

- **Coronavirus Updates & Risk Level:** For the latest coronavirus updates and information visit www.lcsc.edu/coronavirus. The page will continue to be updated with resources and FAQs. In accordance with its [Operational Levels](#), LC State’s current risk level is: Moderate.
 - **Cases Update:** Currently there are **12** active cases and **four** students in isolation in campus housing. The college has had **40** confirmed cases this fall. For the latest numbers visit the coronavirus webpage.
 - **Face Covering Enforcement:** Employees are expected to comply with the face covering requirement as a condition of employment. Enforcement information and corrective action options are detailed in the [Face Covering Guidelines Enforcement Directive](#).
 - **Fall Athletic Events:** LC State’s indoor fall athletic events will take place without spectators. Protocol compliant plans for winter and spring competitions are under consideration and details will be released at a later point.
- **Staff Performance Evaluations:** All LC State staff will begin the evaluation process by completing a short self-evaluation between Oct. 19-30, 2020. This is intended to help the employee and their supervisor prepare for a meaningful performance discussion. It provides an opportunity for the employee to reflect upon their actual job duties, needed training, goals, and accomplishments during the last year. **Staff must complete and submit their self-evaluation to their supervisor on or before Oct. 30.**
 - LC State staff members will receive an email from Bamboo HR on Oct. 19 with a link to the self-evaluation.
 - After the employee completes their self-evaluation, they will click on the “approve” button. It will be sent as a PDF to their supervisor to review.
 - The supervisor will review the self-evaluation and will click on the green “approve” button. It will be returned to the employee with a copy to Human Resource Services.
- **Faculty Survey:** If you are teaching a course this semester, we are interested in your input and feedback on your experience preparing for multiple instructional modalities. You should have received an email with a link to our Faculty Survey, but if you did not, you can [take the survey here](#). Your responses will be anonymous.

- **HR Updates:** For Warrior Wellness and Professional Development opportunities [view this week's flyer](#). And a reminder, if you haven't already, please finish your [SafeColleges Trainings](#).
- **Cybersecurity:** October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month and IT will be publishing a cybersecurity tip each Monday. **Tip #3: Clues You Have Been Hacked.** Some of the most common indicators that you may have been include the following. Your friends tell you that they have received odd emails or messages from you, messages you know you did not send. Your password no longer works for one of your accounts, even though you know you never changed the password. Your anti-virus informs you that one of your files or computer is infected. You receive a pop-up message informing you that the files on your computer have been encrypted and you must pay a ransom to recover them. [To learn more, check out this OUCH! newsletter.](#)
- **Schweitzer CTE Center Construction:** "We are incredibly appreciative of the immense support we've received from the Governor, the Legislature, the State Board, the Schweitzers and SEL, the Albertson Family Foundation, and so many others. The Schweitzer CTE Center will benefit students, families, businesses, and communities in this region and throughout Idaho for generations to come. On behalf of LC State and the many Warriors who will walk through these new halls, I offer a sincere and heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make this amazing facility a reality." - President Cynthia Pemberton



