



Hello Biloxi High School Parents & Students,

I am reaching out today to plead for a commitment from BHS students and parents to do what is necessary to prevent the spread of Covid-19. As many of you are aware, Biloxi High School quarantined a significant number of students this week due to being a close contact to a positive Covid-19 case. I would like to explain how this process works. When a student or staff member is identified as being positive for Covid-19, the BHS staff begin the process of contact tracing to identify individuals that were within 6 feet of the positive individual for 15 minutes or more during the school day. As you can imagine, when dealing with 7 class periods, transportation, athletics, and activities for each student, the tracing is quite extensive and the number of close contacts adds up quickly. Close contacts are then required to complete a 14-day quarantine from their last exposure.

The common theme found during contact tracing has been that the overwhelming majority of positive cases have been traced back to social gatherings that occurred over the weekend. Things such as parties, sleepovers, get togethers, and hanging out with groups of friends. Those individuals that are choosing to participate in social gatherings are not only jeopardizing the school experience for themselves. Their choice is excluding hundreds of other students from the school setting.

While the school cannot control such activities, they are the driving factor that could result in a physical shut down of the school, athletics, and activities. We are begging for your help to prevent such an outcome. The efforts made during the school day to keep students socially distanced, masked up, and healthy are all negated with a few choices during the weekend.

Please assist us by choosing not to participate in such activities during the weekend. As a parent of two Biloxi High School students, I know that we hate for our children to miss out on the fun and excitement of a new school year. We all want them to enjoy their friends, socialize, and be happy. However, times are different, circumstances have changed, and a continuation of such activities will have unfortunate consequences on the school year.

As always, I'm proud to be a member of the INDIAN NATION, and I hope that together we can do what is necessary to keep Biloxi High School open! Let's stay BILOXI STRONG!

Thank you,

Marcus Boudreaux

Superintendent Biloxi Public Schools