Media Talking Points for COVID-19 Events

For School Leaders to Customize.

**About the COVID-19 Scenario**

* On X date, at X school located in X county, X number of individuals were confirmed positive for the COVID-19 virus.
* The individual(s) involved have been asked to stay home and self-isolate, as have any of those who were in close contact.
* The safety and well-being of our staff and students is our top priority.
* We have contacted the local health department and are working cooperatively and collaboratively with any additional direction given by them.

**As a School District, we have initiated a Response Plan:**

* We have notified staff, students and families of the event.
* We are undertaking additional cleaning and sanitation protocols throughout the school (or “affected places in” the school).
* We also continue to follow and maintain Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Department of Education guidelines; namely practicing handwashing, physical distancing to the degree we can, requiring people wear masks inside the building, and upholding cleaning and sanitizing protocols.

**(Optional - When the school building closes temporarily or students are asked to quarantine after being exposed or testing positive for COVID-19)**

* While our school buildings have had to close for on-site instruction, learning has continued because of our dedicated teachers and school leaders.
* Throughout this crisis, we have come to recognize the importance of face-to-face interaction and look forward to students and teachers returning to school buildings as soon as it is safe for all students and teachers.
* Our goal is for students and staff to be able to return once it is safe to do so.
* Students will continue learning at home, online, and in their communities for (eg. the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year)
* The school is working to address questions and decisions necessary to reopen school buildings safely, and we will engage parents, teachers, school leaders and policymakers throughout this process.
* We are working with our district and school leaders to make accommodations for vulnerable people.