



For immediate release:



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From: Public Information Officer Lori Beatley

Plumas County has a cluster of positive COVID-19 cases

Feather River College has been preparing all summer to ensure a safe return of a limited number of students amidst COVID-19 for laboratory classes that cannot be taught online. As one of the many proactive protocols implemented by the college was intense testing regimen of all students. FRC collaborated with Public Health and Plumas District Hospital regarding the testing of over 300 students. As of today, there have been seven positive students. During the contact tracing investigation it has been determined that five of the seven positive individuals were connected to a common residence. The other two individuals were unrelated to each other or the common residence. All of the students have gone home to their permanent residence outside the county to self-isolate. Several other students were identified to have a connection to the common residence and were tested with negative results; however, in an abundance of caution the students were asked to return home to self-quarantine and monitor their symptoms.

In trying to determine which county reports the positive cases in these type of circumstances, the California Department of Public Health directed us with the following, "Our guidance is that a case should be counted in the county they were diagnosed. If after your case investigation you feel they were most likely infected in Plumas, than you should count them there. If there is a question, then we suggest you reach out to the other jurisdiction and see where the most likely location of infection was. If after all of that, both jurisdictions are still unclear then we would recommend the county of permanent residence since they were only at school for a short amount of time." After contact tracing investigation it has been determined that three of the seven cases were likely infected in Plumas County due to the common residence. The other two positive students related to the common residence were most likely related to travel. The cases which appear to have been contracted in Plumas County was #41, and now numbers #44 and #45, which came back positive today.

The objective of the college's testing protocol was for quick detection of positive cases and intervention to contain disease. Public Health and Feather River College will continue the close collaboration to identify any further mitigation needed at this time to protect our students and the community.

If you have any questions please contact the Plumas County COVID-19 informational phone line 530-283-6400 or send an e-mail to COVID19@countyofplumas.com or visit our website at www.plumascounty.us