Transcript of CC Safe Return to Campus: Online Town Hall on the Loomis Hall Quarantine

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Rochelle Dickey:  Thank you everyone. I want to thank everyone who’s here to join us this afternoon as we talk about the quarantine situation in Loomis Hall. Wherever you are, thank you for joining us to students and parents. We’re glad that you’re a Colorado College. We want to acknowledge there’s a lot of confusion and frustration and certainly this is not the way that any of us had anticipated that your time at CC would start. Thank you for your patience and understanding and we know that’s a lot to ask of you this time. But at the same time there’s been a lot of positivity. A lot of folks who are saying, hey, we’re dedicated to getting through this as a team. So we’re here to talk about that today—how we can be supportive, how we arrived at this situation. So, I’m Rochelle Dickey I use she/her/hers pronouns, and I am the acting dean of students and Acting Vice President for Student Life here at Colorado College. I’m a CC alum and the parent of a recent graduate, so it’s my pleasure to sort of co-host this afternoon, along with my colleague Brian Young, who’s the vice president for information technology, and the chair of the prevention work team here at Colorado College. So we’re going to get on with it because we know we’ve got a lot to cover in the next 55 minutes or so before we get started, I’ve just got to thank everybody here on the screen. In addition to thanking all the parents and students over at Loomis, there’s been a lot of folks working really hard here, especially a shout out to the residential experience team Bethany, Sergio, Maggie, Cathy just everybody here. Thank you, everyone. So here’s what we’re going to cover today.

I’m going to turn it over to Brian in a second to sort of give an update on sort of how we got to this point where we are now. We want to talk a little bit about logistics, we want to talk about support for students, what’s going on with the block one courses. And then we have some time for questions and answers. And we know that a lot of you have already sent those in. So Zak, our moderator has sort of grouped some of those. We want to have a chance to answer those at the end. So I’m going to go ahead and turn it over to my colleague Brian right now. Thanks.

Brian Young:  Thank, Rochelle. Again, I appreciate everyone’s time I echo Rochelle’s comments to everyone, as we work through this quarantine situation.
Zak, you can move to my first slide, I just want to provide everyone a sense of what we are doing on campus. That adds to our prevention efforts, not just block one but ongoing. As a reminder, we are testing all students upon arrival, that has been going well. We have been working with our Health Partners locally, we are seeing our turnaround times in the two to three day time range which has been good. We have an onsite testing center. So students are tested here on campus. We are also using the test that PCR nasal which has a good sensitivity rating as well as good results. I also am pleased to say that our ongoing efforts for testing are that we are working with a dedicated group of scientists and biologists and epidemiologist, who are developing and have developed our random sample testing which is done weekly on our campus and will continue throughout the academic year. Our random sampling will continue to get refined as we do each week with a percentage of a number of students, faculty and staff that are on campus. I’ve just remind everyone as well that we do have a dedicated team of scientists and biologists here at CDC who have been actively engaged in our prevention efforts as well as our testing efforts. Zak, next slide.

But I also wanted to say that testing alone is not the answer for us to be able to provide this on campus experience. Testing is one component. It also means that we are tying our testing to other key behavioral aspects of trying to manage coven as a CC community. The basics that we all know about washing our hands good hygiene, making sure we’re wearing masks, making sure that we are adhering to proper social distancing, making sure that we avoid large crowds, making sure that we all work together in this CC commitment to make sure that we can mitigate and reduce any spread.

I also want to make sure that everyone is aware that the 650 plus students that are on campus. To date we have fifth had one positive case. As most people know that positive case was detected upon arrival testing.

The positive case was, when found out, was immediately sent to isolation as we follow both local and state health authorities. We initiated immediately the proper steps of our plan for contact tracing, immediately made some additional findings and covered a number of additional contacts from the, from the positive case.

Working closely with our health professionals here at the county level, who are great partners who have gone through our plan, who have made sure that we are doing all we can to protect not only our campus environment, but our, our community as well to try to minimize any spread or additional cases. Upon getting all of the information and the data, the recommendation from our partners at the county health were that we should quarantine.
Brian Y.: Our, our residence hall. A very tough decision. But one, from a safety standpoint, that all of the data and information made it the wise decision.

We continue to make sure that we work with our county health professionals. We have daily, if not more than daily check ins on protocols on procedures on all aspects of trying to make sure that we mitigate any spread or risk that this virus poses. Again, I’d like to remind everybody that of the 600 plus students that are on campus. We have had one case. And currently and hopefully that’s as many as we will see. That is, is where we are today from a continued prevention, as well as the continue CC commitment of what we all have to work together towards to make sure that we reduce the spread or increased of any number of cases.

Rochelle, I’ll now turn this over to you for further components of what we’re doing and some of the information about the strategies in Loomis Hall.

Rochelle D.: Thank you so much. Brian, and we know that there’s a lot of questions specifically regarding the quarantine and we’ll be able to answer some of those later. But we’ll move on with giving some information and then certainly come back to that. Right now we’d like to just talk a little bit about the logistics what’s actually going on in Loomis. We were able to work with our partner El Paso County Health and, you know, take very seriously mental and physical well-being of our students and know that they’ve got to be able to get outside and not be confined to their rooms. That’s not a circumstance that we want any of our students to be in. I’d like to call now on Bethany Grubbs who’s the director of our residential experience. Certainly, she’s been working tirelessly with Sergio Portisan and the RAs and other folks over and Loomis about support for students getting students outside all of those types of things. So thank you, Bethany.

Bethany Grubbs: Absolutely. So I know that many of you are here today to hear about the science and the testing. And so I won’t take up too much time, but I do want to absolutely pass along my thanks and I think that many of you would as well to the students and the student leaders who are in the building and who are working on showing us what it’s like to be in a quarantine building so that we can really do everything possible to enhance the circumstances in the building. So, Zak, I think you can advance to the next slide, so that folks can see a little outline of what I’m talking about.

But we are looking at, and we’re looking primarily at outdoor time because the initial meeting that we held with students, and thank you to all the students who are listening now who came and shared your experiences with us. We listened very closely and wanted to make changes as quickly and as expediently as possible while keeping safety in mind.
Bethany G.: So we have a lot of wonderful opportunities for outdoor time. I’ve actually just gotten word from Sergio that we were able to increase the daily outdoor time from 20 minutes up to an hour, which is really wonderful news, because I know that that was a huge focus of our conversation with students with you all on that first night, and so that’s really fantastic news. Um, and then we’re working with Bon Appetit food services to take in feedback about the meals. They have just let us know that they’re increasing some of the portion sizes. Because when they were hearing from students, you know, hey, when this is my only option and this is my bag of meals for the next 24 hours. It’s not quite enough. I’m still hungry. And so we have increased that and are also working with some campus partners to be able to get snacks down to the lobbies so that students can grab them on their way back from outdoor time. We’re also working out systems for laundry. And so there is a laundry signup that went out to students yesterday. And then we’re also looking at private spaces. So for those of you who have roommates and need a space to be able to just have a private conversation we completely understand that need, and so there will be soon if not already a way to be able to reserve those lounges and spaces. And again, I want to say a huge thank you to the RA staff of Loomis. I hope some of you are here right now. And I want to tell you how incredibly appreciative I am of you and I want to let others know that these are students who are in this to write and a half their own fears and anxieties around a corner team that are just really stepping up so wonderfully to help their peers and to be leaders within the community. So thank you so much to the RAs.

So, I’m happy to take any more questions about sort of quality of life within Loomis. And how, and I also wanted to hear feedback about other things that we can work on to make that quality of life better. Oh, we also what we heard how hot. And so we got fans out to every student and then there is some information. Some people have asked if they would be able to supply their own student with an air conditioner and we have a little bit of movement on that as well. So really we want to hear your feedback. We want to let you know that that everybody on campus is really motivated to help you all in Loomis. So we know that that situation is not ideal. And this is not the way that any of us wanted to welcome you to Colorado College for your first two weeks, but we are incredibly motivated and incredibly eager to try to make this as easy as possible as comfortable as possible. And so we absolutely want to hear from you. Thank you for your patience. Thank you for your understanding and also thank you so much for your diligence and making sure that with the permissions that we’re getting with the outdoor time and the snacks and the laundry in the lounges and everything and making sure that you are keeping your social distance. And that you’re keeping your mask on and that you’re just being incredibly diligent with those things so that this can this can be all over in 14 days.
Bethany G.: So thank you so much for your patience and your understanding. And I think I’ll wrap it up. For now, so that we can go on to the next thing, and get to as many of your questions as possible.

Rochelle D.: Bethany. Thank you so much. And I echo that a special. Special thanks to wonderful RAs who are tremendous leaders for their peers over there. We know you’re all dealing with this as well, Bethany. Were you did you mention package delivery as well? So we’ve got that. Yes, go ahead.

Bethany G.: Yes, so we have we have package delivery that is going out along with the meal delivery. So basically, in order for any staff to go into Loomis, they need to be suited up. We’ve heard some students say, Oh, my goodness. It looks like people in hazmat suits are here. We’re so sorry for the scariness of that look; it is imperative. It’s important that people who are going into Loomis are suited up appropriately. I assure you that underneath those students and behind those masks are the kindest and most wonderful volunteers. And I also want to issue a huge thank you to them. They are people who said, absolutely. Sign me up. I’m more than willing to go in and I want to help out these students so a huge thank you to them, but we are mail delivery is happening on a daily basis. We’re prioritizing packages. But, and then the mail room has let us know that if it’s a piece of mail is a piece of a letter looks particularly important than they’re taking that in as well. But right now, they’re really prioritizing packages, because they know that a lot of those are being sent. And we had three full mail carts of packages yesterday. And I’m thinking, probably another three full today. : And so if you are sending a letter that is particularly important, you can let us know. You can email mail services April scrub in and she will set it aside. Or you can let me know and I’ll pass it along to her, but we’re getting those mail calls through and we’re hoping that that you guys are getting some really great stuff from your families and from others.

Rochelle D.: Thank you so much, Bethany, we wanted to be sure that we covered that since there were a lot of questions about can I send something to my student and by all means you can before moving on to talk a little bit about support and then we’ll just mentioned again, what’s going on with block one classes and then we’ll save some time for questions and answers. We did get an update from our, our cleaning crews yesterday we contract through the deck, so there’s been questions about trash pickup. Yes. Those things will be happening. Cleaning restrooms daily disinfesting high touch points in the restaurants, as part of the cleaning process. One of the things they wanted you to be aware of is that the CDC recommends no vacuuming while people are being isolated and quarantine because vacuuming can disturb air airflow. So they’re not vacuuming. So if you see people not vacuuming, but the crews are in there, cleaning and doing the disinfecting there. They will of course disinfect student rooms.
Rochelle D.: If there’s anybody who test positive if students wish to disinfect their own rooms disinfection kits are available for them, and can make sure that you get those from the desk at Loomis and that those get delivered to you. So that’s a little bit of what’s happening with the cleaning there. Quickly for particularly for our students there in Loomis, just always want you to be aware of the resources that are available to you. In addition to your wonderful residential experience team. So you see on the slide here. The Student Life division is our office. Career Center outdoor education student health and well-being. Certainly. I think you’ve all been notified students of your six free counseling sessions. I just want you to know that you’re not limited to the six. If you need that continuing care costs will not be a factor for you just please make your needs, known in the college will make sure that we take care of that for you. So again, no need to limit yourself to six and the payment will not be an issue for you there will handle that our health center. Our chaplain’s office or wellness resource in our indigenous Native American elder in residence all are under the umbrella of student health and well-being.

So I just actually had a meeting this morning with our other leaders in the student life division regarding. What’s the check in students that’s happen- ing with you on a daily basis? The contact tracing follow up team. So certainly we know what contact tracing is and there’s a follow up team of folks, not only from all of these offices in the student life division and we’ve got colleagues and athletics admissions all over the college who are volun- teering to be the contact tracing follow up team. And basically, we think of those as case managers. So students if you’re not hearing from someone, you know, let me know. We’ll make sure that we get someone there for you people are continually signing up. So this is that balance students between wanting someone to have a daily check in with you. And also not wanting you to feel overwhelmed in what can already be an overwhelming situation. So that’s why we’re trying to funnel it all through and say, to our staff and our team if you want to be supportive of our students and do that. The contact tracing team so also for our others, for our RAs, and other residential experience team if there’s a need that, you know, students have that, again, is going to be funneled through contact tracing. Because we know a lot of times in an effort to make sure that students, you’re getting what you need. There may be several requests with several different people. And again, trying to funnel that through there and quickly before we turn it over to questions and answers as we did put out in the email the other day.

What’s happening with your block one classes? We’re very appreciative of our provost and our Vice Provost who immediately reached out to faculty. When the news of Loomis quarantine and our faculty said that they are happy to work with you.
Rochelle D.: If you’ve got your in-person. If you’ve got your hybrid class, as I understand, at this point, sort of shifting your first year classes around your CC 100 classes is a little bit difficult. But they said not to worry about your class if it’s in person or hybrid that your faculty member will work with you to accommodate on that it’s not necessary for you to say, Oh my gosh, I’ve got to switch to a remote course right now. So that’s, that’s wonderful news that we’ve got from our Provost and Vice Provost. So at this point, we’re going to turn it over to Zach as our moderator and we know that we’ve got a lot of questions to answer. And we’ll see what we can get through. Thank you.

Brian Y.: Zak, this is Brian. I’m, I’m going to, I’ve had several questions asking if a student in in Loomis gets retested, who is who is right now in quarantine, and that test is negative, would they be able to be out of quarantine? I want to assure everybody that Acting Dean Dickey and I met personally with El Paso County Health yesterday and asked a series of questions to try to Minimize quarantine time as if at all possible. It’s just not based on local and state guidelines. So even if someone were to get tested, which can happen, it would not mean a negative result would not mean the ability to be out of quarantine, we specifically asked that question of our health partners and that was the, the answer that, that we received.

Rochelle D.: Thank you for covering that Brian. We didn’t know that was a question on a lot of folks’ minds. Can we shorten the quarantine period with retesting, so thank you for answering that, Brian?

Zak, what other questions would you like the panel to answer as I know you’ve group those together?

Zak Kroger: Yes. There’s a bunch here. Um, let’s see here. I’m just going through all this. There was a question about laundry, I believe that an email went out last night about signing up for laundry Bethany, is that correct?

Bethany G.: It did. Yes. So there is there’s a form of any students that are currently in Loomis did not. I haven’t seen that form or need to be directed to it. They can email me or Sergio or they’re probably they’re already as well so there is a whole system in place for making sure that students are able to do laundry.

And I can, I can jump in with one question that I’ve seen come up a lot. And that is about the outdoor time that students are sort of designated a little spot that they need to stay on. And so there’s a lot of questions about, hey, you know, can they can, they move around. Can they go for a jog? And those are questions that I know were asked and the possibilities were explored I’ve answered a couple of people in the chat directly, but just to give the broad answer.
Bethany G.: It is, you know, the physical fitness aspect of moving around and going for a jog or doing some physical fitness outside it really increases the Eris violation of the virus particles. And so that’s something that there isn’t a comfort level with just yet. And so, and, additionally, of course, it’s going to be much harder would be much harder to keep the appropriate distance between people, if they were sort of milling around in the space. And so in order to be able to get as many people outside as possible. And this is the system for now but they know that we are exploring every possible avenue and we know that many are asking if they could go out for a jog. At this point, we explored fully and can’t allow that right now. But thank you for the question. I know that many students are engaging in fitness in their rooms and have been having some fun with that. And even being able to make it a bit of a community thing. So thanks to all of you out there and let us who are who are sort of building a community around fitness in your rooms.

Rochelle D.: Thank you, Bethany and I’ve seen a couple of questions and also as I talked to a couple of parents over the past few days about residents in Loomis, how you’re feeling about being able to re-integrate with the rest of campus when this quarantine is up and, so know that that’s something on your minds as well that you all are a community there but knowing that other folks on campus are building community. So we’ll certainly be working on that with you, your ideas and ways that you want to reintegrate into campus. You know, certainly we have some ideas but want to hear that that from you. I know there’s already some talk about, you know, getting people again together, appropriately social distanced and following all the other protocols. We making use of great outdoor spaces that we have. So how can we be able to, again, get you out and get you meeting people from other residence halls on campus and I know our director campus activities kind of jumped on this call me. I don’t know if you’re still here. I know we talked earlier. She’s really busy doing orientation with all of our students right now, even though that’s for sure, but any might not be here with us right now but just wanted you to know that that she and the team are already thinking about, you know, maybe. What are some fun things again that y’all want to do. As Loomis residents and again what helps to get you back in touch with your, with your peers across the rest of campus. So we will be definitely cognizant of that don’t know if you had any ideas on that as well.

Bethany G.: Yeah, thank you so much for addressing that Rochelle. And then I also wanted to speak to the students who may be on the call who didn’t move into Loomis who were sort of intercepted in their move in and are in a bit of a state of limbo right now. Because you know I’ve heard from a few of you. And, and I understand this the sort of sentiment or emotions behind that, that you’re kind of going, I don’t know if I’m a resident of Loomis or a resident of South or a resident of Matthias.
Bethany G.: And where should I be building my community. And where should I be making my friends and you know some of you are even paired with temporary roommates and you’re going, Okay, is this going to be my roommate for the year, or am I going back to my other Loomis roommate. We understand all of the difficulties involved in that and absolutely are. You know the name of the game for us is to help students to build connections to the campus and to each other and to their peers and so, We are absolutely you know we will we will give many opportunities for you all to meet students, both within your quarantine outside of your quarantine. In your classes in in organizations and Amy Hill and I work very closely and we assure you, there’ll be lots and lots of responsibility or lots of lots of opportunities. Sorry. And we take that responsibility seriously so keep your eyes open, engage in the virtual programming that is happening now. That is, you know, the only formalized programming at the moment is virtual and so you are able to restate that not in the same way. But, you know, you’re missing out on those opportunities to sort of see students as you’re walking around the campus and that that will that will come soon enough. I promise.

Rochelle D.: And thank you for that as well. Bethany. And just to follow up on that did have a student reach out to me, and several others last night on behalf of, you know, a multitude of other students who, again, as you said, Bethany were sort of intercepted and had to change plans at the last minute, as we needed to be conscious of risk mitigation over and Loomis and diverting those students to other locations. So I did have a chance last night to connect with John Loud or who’s our Associate Vice President and had a chance to respond to those students. If you’re one of those students who was not able to come into Loomis if you desire to go back to Loomis after quarantine that we will work with you on that. If you desire to stay in your new community if you’re over in South Hall or Matthias that will work with you on that as well. Because as Bethany said, you know, it’s kind of hard to develop in your build your community. When you’re thinking, where am I going, am I going back to Loomis. Am I going to stay here in South Hall. So if you desire to stay in. What was your temporary accommodation will make that your permanent accommodation and again be attentive to helping you build community there if you want to come back to Loomis will work with you on that as well.

Brian Y.: A lot of questions, I will just group together, asking about the quarantine decision and some very specific asking how many people were contacted I want details on contact racing. And I, I just want to share that we’re not going to share details of who was contacted how many I can assure you. Please hear me, I can assure you that working with our county health provider. This decision was not like it was it was not lightly made: With all the data that we have with all of the information.
Brian Y.: This was the recommendation for us to be a safe community and for us to help protect, stop any spread. So, I just wanted to share that it was not a decision that was lightly made; contact tracing was thorough and enough information to help us and our county health partners have to make and come to this decision.

Rochelle D.: Thank you, Brian. Zak, I know as you’re filtering through the questions. What other some. What are some other groupings of questions that we can answer for folks?

Zak K.: Sorry, I’m just going through all the questions that are coming in as well as the ones from last night to try to figure out some groupings here. There’s a lot of questions about future plans as this changed anything has this made us pivot in any way has this made us reconsider our strategies for dealing with testing or quarantining or anything of that sort and moving forward.

Rochelle D.: Brian, can you go ahead and address as I understand, know we’re still testing students upon arrival. So we have not changed our plans there and I get sort of the overall question is, You know, what are the college’s plans, moving forward, you know, that’s something that we can continue to consider, you know, and think about right now we have our plans where we’ve got our students on campus. Now our first year students, you know, we had developed a phased reopening plan and to welcome back returning students starting blocks to as of this date that is still our plan. And certainly if there are any differences in that the college, you know, we try to communicate that as soon as possible. I know sometimes people are saying we’re not getting information in a timely fashion and understand the you know the frustrations that that may cause because sometimes decisions are made, rather quickly and wanting to get the word out quickly and things and then follow up with more details. So we apologize. We’re cognizant of that that when we put out announcements. We don’t always have All of the details and the logistics in place that that folks want to know, but we’re committed to, you know, as the college makes decisions that impact, you know, we’ll do our best to get information out and figure out the best way, whether it’s, you know, this type of forum or another type of forum to make sure that we’re answering questions as best we can and keeping fully people fully informed. So that’s our plan moving forward at this time and Brian, I don’t know if you had anything to add to that right?

Brian Y.: You covered it, Rochelle, and I just again say to everyone that our testing strategy is, is to test students. Upon arrival, ask for and really commit to that enhanced social distancing until that first result comes back.
Brian Y.: We are then aggressively doing random sampling each week for those students that are on this call. Please check your email make making sure if you are selected in that random sample that that we need students to adhere to the random sampling, making sure that we all follow the CC commitment that we have out there so that we can remain as safe as possible. I recognize and I know that all my colleagues here recognize that there are thousands of various testing strategies across campuses across the country. We believe ours for our location for our size for the for the numbers here in Colorado in Colorado Springs is a solid and wise testing strategy. We, we need everyone’s help to make sure that we’re committed to following the random sampling that we have put into place.

Zak K.: Could you address the question of our students able to quarantine at home.

Rochelle D.: I’ll go ahead and get my camera back on here. I’ll go ahead and address that. Yes. Students can quarantine at home and want to acknowledge also from the start that that may not be something that’s feasible for all students. That is something that Brian and I had a chance to talk with Dr. Kelly at El Paso County Health Department. He discourages flying certainly, and we know that that advantages students who perhaps you know your home or you’ve got relatives within easy driving distance. I know I talked to some folks. The other day who said, we drove 10 hours to get there will drive 10 hours to come pick up our student. We just think that’s best the guidelines for quarantining at home, and we do ask you to take this seriously. If at all possible, the advice that we’re hearing is if it’s best that you know the student. If you go home, if your household is able to provide you with a private restroom that that’s certainly what’s advisable, and certainly if you become symptomatic then the whole household certainly would need to quarantine and, as Brian mentioned we test students. Upon arrival. So when you come back to campus, there’d be testing. But if that works out for you. Better to just say I, I’d like to go home and be with my family in quarantine at home. That is certainly fine to do that. One of the questions that we did specifically asked our health partner yesterday is if there were any concerns with crossing state lines. And if that was with that was allowed and it certainly is. So again, flying is discouraged getting on an airplane and perhaps that goes with trains or other types of public conveniences as well. But certainly there’s no problem with crossing state lines we just asked you to observe those quarantine measures at home and encourage you to do what feels best for you and your family at this time.

Zak K.: With the contact tracing have the students that were exposed been moved out of Loomis? Or the person is not even exposed, but the students that had been in contact with the student and question.
Maggie Santos: This is Maggie from campus safety, the student that should room due to the number of students have who were exposed. That is why the residence hall was quarantine because of the number of them. So the point of moving all of them at this time was not logical.

Zak K.: Once the quarantine has ended our students able to go to class. Normally, are they able to go to town? Are they able to go to grocery store? This is some questions that came in last night.

Maggie S.: This is Maggie again after the quarantine is over for those students, they will be back into regular in social distancing and the expectation will be the same as anybody else on campus.

Zak K.: If the panelists are able to look at the comments. A lot of questions that are coming in because it’s difficult for me to, to, to keep up, essentially. So if you see something that you can answer please do if you’re one of the panelists.

Brian Y.: Exactly call again. A couple of questions I if I thought it covered, but if there is any way that students in quarantine can be out of quarantine sooner than 14 days. I can assure you. We have asked that question asked about procedures options and it is it is simply not something that both the local and state health are adamant about and so unfortunately 14 days is the number. I do want to show everybody again on the testing strategy any student that needs a test wants a test can get a test we have testing on site will have testing on site throughout the academic year. And we will continue to ramp up or ramp down testing as we follow numbers and cases.

Rochelle D.: Thank you, Brian. And you may have already answered this question. I’m seeing this coming in a lot of percentages of random sampling per week. And if you did answer if you wouldn’t mind just going over that again. Sure.

Brian Y.: I’m not sure if I covered that. So, our current scientific modeling and the data for the best fastest and most accurate way to find any cases we are random doing random samples of 33% of our on campus population. And will continue to refine that as we work with our science advisory group as well as other epidemiologists in in this modeling and testing field.

Rochelle D.: Sorry, I couldn’t unmuting there for a second. Hi, this is, Rochelle. Again, there’s a couple of questions that’s come in about just expectations of this particular age group. So your age group students. You know, and as we talked with you as we’ve talked to other student leaders and influencers on campus. You know, these protocols are tough we acknowledge that this is a change of culture here at Colorado College, it’s not convenient. It’s a pain to do. It’s not what we want our campus life to look like with social distancing and not being able to interact with folks and wearing masks.
Rochelle D.: It’s uncomfortable, those types of things. But this is what we’ve got to do. To try again for risk mitigation on our campus. So in terms of, you know, some folks have just asked the blatant question really can folks of this age group be expected to follow protocols. And as we’ve talked to students and kind of gotten your opinion students a lot of you are saying we’re willing to do that. And we can do this. And we know it’s a shift of culture, but we’ve been able to shift culture on our campus in a number of ways because students have said, we, we can do this. So we’re optimistic. We know that it’s asking a lot of our students. It’s asking a lot of us. Quite frankly, as adults, you know, to get used to, to changing our habits and doing this and I want a gel to be aware of and certainly our students here. I hope you’ve seen this reduce the risk campaign because we are experience as has shown us that shifting culture, a lot of times happens peer to peer. So our communications department has really worked with a lot of great student leaders, our first video was from subpoena Bhatti who’s our wonderful elected student body president. We’ve got a lot of other student influencers representing you know athletes, leaders. I saw a lot of RAs in there. So again, a shout out to the RAs. So peers, talking to peers about here’s what we want our campus community to be like, here’s what I’m willing to do. And I want you to be willing to do the same. So we feel that messaging is very important. So, to your point for folks who asked that question? We’re very cognizant of developmentally where this group of students is, again, what we’re hearing from students is we’re willing to, to, to try to do our part as best we can and we know it takes some getting used to but that’s, that’s something that we’re, we’re certainly trying here on our campus is that peer to peer interaction and hearing from some students that that does make a big difference for them.

Zak K.: What is the process for contact tracing, how that, how does contact ray tracing work.

Maggie S.: Hi this is Maggie again contract tracing. Right now we have a team of contract racers who are medically trained EMTs, what they do is they will be contacting any student that has a confirmed case or possibly just having symptoms that they think might be related to COVID. And then we will have those folks contact them and ask them specific questions. Who have you been in contact with a certain period of time where you wearing a mask. What was the distance? What was the scenario where you in a large group. Show. There’s a lot of different questions that they will be asked. Initially after the initial conversation, they will ask them on a daily basis. What kind of resources, will they need? So every students that in a quarantine environment will have a contact trace or talk to them on a daily basis, any parents if your student has not been contact, that’s concerning to me, please contact us immediately and we’ll make sure that somebody will be there to provide them support that is the person that the students need to talk to.
Maggie S.: What if they need a vegan meal and they got food that was not what they requested if they need additional items they need a library book they need a computer. Any kind of things that they need to make their stay as comfortable as possible. And I understand it’s not going to be comfortable, but as best as we can keep them comfortable is our goal. But that contact tracer is a person that is there a connection to getting all the resources they need on a daily basis.

Rochelle D.: Team. We’ve got a question here that I’ve seen pop up a couple of times is what is the correct date for the Loomis quarantine to be up and how our students being kept informed of that there was a suggestion is there may be a big countdown clock or something that’s in Loomis. So, Maggie, Brian, and I, if you have that exact date for 14 days. I know some folks have question is this. Actually, the 29th or the 30th and Bethany. If you have sorry my camera was all folks and Bethany, if there’s any ideas and in the halls about how that’s being communicated to the students.

Bethany G.: Oh, sure. Um, and I apologize. I was trying to answer questions in the chat. So we don’t know that I entirely heard your question, but just letting students know when the final day of the 14 is.

Rochelle D.: Exactly. There will take you to this at the 29th through the 30th. So counting that.

Bethany G.: My understanding is that it’s the 30th and but we can absolutely make sure that we’re getting that message out. So, even people who are not able to attend today or logged in today can do that. So we’ll make sure that that’s in some future communications.

Rochelle D.: That sounds great. That’s my understanding as well. So again, I’m a suggestion there Bethany was, you know, if there was like a countdown clock or maybe just some type of visual that that will help students

Bethany G.: Absolutely. We can do that I’m going off of that, while I was in the chat. I did see questions about if there is a possibility of the 14 days needing to be extended. And so I’m wondering if maybe Maggie or Brian can speak to that. You know what works at what would happen if I’m a student became symptomatic tested positive themselves would we be looking at resetting the clock. I had a couple of people worried about that.

Brian Y.: I, I’ll let Maggie chime in on that, because I know we’ve asked that of County Health, Maggie.
Maggie S.: And that’s the whole point of the quarantine at this point. Those students are limited as to who they contact. So if we have a positive case in Loomis. It would be limited to those people that are having direct contact with that student that test positive.

So that is our hope and that’s been our initial hope in the very beginning is the most limited contact students had would limit the number of people that would have to be quarantine unfortunately. More people contacted each other than should have been so at this point with everybody in their cohorts that group that might be impacted would be fairly small.

Zak K.: This question may have been answered earlier and I may have missed it from going through Chat stuff. There’s a lot of questions about the possibility of retesting can always be retested will students or the residents be retested is what’s happening with that. I apologize. Again, if that’s already been answered.

Brian Y.: No, the answer is, students can absolutely be retested.

Maggie S.: Um, one of the things I want everybody to consider is because of the 14 day quarantine. After the 14 days they’re basically starting at the point where they’re no longer going to be exposing others. So the test would be for your own gratification. Whatever makes you feel better, but in terms of allowing them to leave the residence hall at the 14 days, they will be allowed to be off quarantine.

Rochelle D.: And just so you know, there had been a discussion. And again, something that Brian and I asked the Health Department yesterday and just, just to clarify, you know, someone said you know how we’re how we’re decisions made, you know, certainly the college does you know make decisions, as Brian mentioned at the beginning, we’ve got a scientific advisory group on campus, made up of some wonderful faculty and other folks who were tracking data for us so that compared with advice that we get from El Paso County Health. And, you know, certainly this is this is one where we certainly came down on the side of caution and we understand from your questions and concerns at some of you are certainly saying we’re exercising more caution than then we need to, but that is where we are right now. So that’s, that’s a question about that partnership. There was also a question about advanced testing and students got tested before they came to campus. I think Brian or Maggie, you would certainly have some more information on that one of the reasons that we wanted to move to testing on campus is because we felt it was certainly more equitable for our students certainly we’ve all seen on the news that the access to testing, perhaps, where you are at home is easier for some people than others.
Rochelle D.: We did not want to have to subject people to those worst case scenarios that we’re seeing of, you know, waiting in a hot car for 16 hours and still having to wait several days for testing turnaround time, by which time that original test result is not viable anyway. So that’s why we moved to let’s test students on campus and work with a partner that’s able to give us some greater turnaround times with testing, of course, and then move to the retesting.

So in terms of retesting students in Loomis, I want to echo. You know what, Maggie said if that gives you some peace of mind. By all means, go ahead and do it. But we do not, and we will not make students and Loomis retest if you don’t want to; you’ve already gone through a lot, you’re already in a difficult situation and our concern was you’ve heard us say this several times today that 14 day quarantine timeline is firm. And we did not want to send any mixed messages that if I go and get retested and get a negative result that I’ll be able to get out of quarantine, because that’s not what our what our practice is going to be right now. But if it helps you to have some peace of mind and you want to get retested you can, but you do not have to, and we will not subject you to that retesting as Brian mentioned earlier, there is the random sample retesting on campus. Loomis residents, you have been pulled out of that for now. So you should not be getting a request to go in and do random testing will wait until after quarantine for that. So, again, that 14 day quarantine is firm but get retested if it gives you some peace of mind. Anything else to add there?

Brian Y.: No. You hit all the points on, that was good.

Bethany G.: I did see actually Rochelle had been asking about Amy Hill earlier and she popped into the chat to remind students that they she sent out a form last night for students to request activity kits and she said she delivered about 80 activity kits. In today’s meal delivery. And so if you haven’t filled out that form you can request another activity kit and they go along with some really great programming that she’s doing and that’s wonderful. And thanks so much to Amy and folks who are working with her on that and other volunteer. So students to fill out that fill out that form.

Rochelle D.: We’re wanting you to have some activities and things that that you can do that are that are fun for you. And we know you’re engaged in. So right now, as well. So again, those, those efforts to try to be supportive as we all navigate this together, Zach. Are there any sort of, do you see any other big cluster of? Maybe one last question that we can ask, we know we’re a few minutes over time, but we also started a few minutes late, as we wanted to try to get the majority of our guests signed on

Zak K.: A number of questions about the refrigerators ice can ice be delivered when we get more ice trays in the rooms bags of ice.
Bethany G.: I’m quite. Thank you for pointing that out. I hadn’t seen that in the chat and so as I was mentioning before, yeah. As you identify needs, let us know. And when we can reasonably make them happen. We will. So I think the ice is it is a pretty easy one. Thanks for mentioning that

Brian Y.: Bethany, could I ask you because I think this is, I think this is important in and I hope that even if the parents that logged on may possibly later but could you just describe the touch points that that our community is working hard to make happen with our students in Loomis just, I know you talked about it before, but maybe just reiterate

Bethany G.: Absolutely. I am so there are many people at the college who are asking how they can help. So it’s everything from the volunteers to help with the food delivery, who have been wonderful and fantastic and two folks from Alumni Relations, who are gathering alumni volunteers to hopefully get a little surprise to everybody. Soon, it takes a little bit of coordination and then folks from the Innovation Institute that are asking if they can send over things. And so a lot of folks even one of our organizers of the outdoor time plan is a former array of Loomis call and former resident of Loomis fall, who works over at the fine art center now. So there’s a lot of folks that are really asking how they can help and ways in which they can help. And so it’s just a matter of coordinating it all to get those things out to you all who are in there. And as I mentioned before, of course, for literal touch points. We really are pretty limited in terms of going into the building and making sure that we have a small number of people who are able to suit on up to be able to go into the building and deliver those things. But we’ve got a lot of people on the outside who are asking how they can get stuff to us that we can get to you. I hope that answers the spirit of the question, Brian. And since we are close to wrapping up. I also wanted to make sure to let you all know that. And since we are close to wrapping up. I also wanted to make sure to let you all know that. I know, Zach, and I have been trying to pretty hard to answer a lot of questions in the chat, we are you know we’re up to 290 questions. And so, but I do want to assure people just as we have for all the other town halls that that that chat transcript is able to be downloaded and looked at afterwards. And so hopefully we will be able to use that to inform some of our future communications. If we scroll through and find questions that we didn’t get the answers to, or requests that we didn’t get to address. And so it’s incredibly valuable information for us to hear from both students and parents and others, right, who can share information about how we can best support the students in Loomis

Rochelle D.: And on that. I think we’ll go ahead and wrap up again. I want to thank the panelists Bethany and Brian and Zach, thanks for moderating. Cathy and Maggie. Thank you for being here. But again, to particularly thank you.
Rochelle D.: Our Loomis community, our students, our families and parents were able to join us this afternoon, and we know we didn’t get a chance to answer all your questions and we’re sorry for that. There’s just a lot coming in, but hopefully that this session was have some help to you and gives you some sense of, of what we’re doing to try to support in and help students get through this time and we will continue to be thinking about that and examining that and I echo what Beth and he said You know, students, let us hear from you about the needs, there. So we want to thank you for joining us today. And again, this will this is recorded, so it’ll be up on the coven website if you know folks who just weren’t able to join us this afternoon, or if you want to go back and be able to pick some things apart or feel free to contact us and certainly will get back to you in the quickest timeframe possible managing a lot of questions, but we’re going to do our best folks to make sure that your questions are answered. So again, thank you so much for joining us. Everybody take care. Thanks. Bye bye.