

TO: ALL CONCERNED

DATE: January 20, 2021

RE: Town Hall Q & A

I begin by reviewing some of the stats in the facility and note that sadly we had our first 2 inmate deaths related to COVID 19 this weekend. We had concerns regarding these inmates based upon their age and some medical concerns and ultimately it proved to be true. This is a very unfortunate reality with this virus and ultimately we hope to see no more lives lost to it. That being said we must continue to practice all the protocols and direction we have been discussing for the last 10 months.

Clearly the virus is in the facility and ultimately our goal is manage it and monitor inmates as they experience symptoms. Most individuals will have minor to moderate symptoms, but some will have significant symptoms based upon many factors. It is important that Medical gets to these individuals quickly. Please let staff know if you are not feeling well.

Questions/concerns:

1. Some of the agenda items talked about were Tablets, typewriters and TVs, when can we buy them?

I have no answers on Tablets and typewriters but TVs I just found out are going to go on sale very soon. There is a stock coming in. Tablets and typewriters, we have yet to hear any updates.

2. Why aren't we using the visiting kiosks on enhanced quarantined Units?

These kiosks are ready to go on all of our Units but ultimately set up for Pods that are on extensive enhanced quarantine, for instance, over a month. There are many things that need to happen to set up visits on a Pod verses in the virtual visiting area. Once we do set visits up on a Pod, your previous visits that were set up would be knocked out in the system. We are prepared to do this and will look at it for any Pods that go for an extended time.

3. Why doesn't the DOC follow all the CDC guidelines?

The DOC from the beginning of this has been more conservative in their approach. We follow the guidelines here at Albion that Central Office dictates we are to follow.

4. Is it true that you have to be tested prior to receiving a vaccine?

No, it is not. We have some local opportunities at hospitals to get tested and this is not the case prior to be vaccinated. We do have many staff getting vaccines as we speak. There is some movement on vaccines but I have no estimation of when they will be offered to the inmate population. We are absolutely encouraging everyone to get them.

5. Aren't the roving Sergeants from side-to-side another way to spread COVID?

We could go throughout the daily operations here and look at each case like this. We must operate the facility safely and securely but we will mitigate where we can in terms of movement.

6. Will it be safe to go back to work once I am off quarantine?

Yes, I believe it is. Unless one is willing to stay in their home/cell, there are always opportunities to be exposed to viruses. I for one do not want to live like that and I believe that most of you do not.

7. Why aren't there cleaners out for showers, phones and kiosks on enhanced quarantines?

We absolutely want to limit inmates out during an enhanced quarantine. They are all to be cleaned in the evening, but during the day we have asked inmates to clean after and before use in these areas. This is the safest way to handle this rather than bringing inmates out while other inmates are using these services.

8. Phones.

I am hoping by now the phones have been addressed in the facility. It may not be what everybody wants but we believe it meets the needs of the population.

9. Why aren't there more Paroles?

Secretary Wetzel definitely would like to see a reduction in overall inmate population but there are many mechanisms that must happen before this will occur.

10. Why isn't GTL and the Tablets adding more games?

I have talked about this before but there is a new edition of the Tablets coming out and there supposedly are many more options.

11. Can we purchase more food items and possibly mattresses?

We are continuing to look at sales of food items and other issues. There is no plan to allow purchasing mattresses at this time.

- Channel 61 has been fixed.
- My handwriting. I apologize for how difficult my handwriting is to read but not only do I have bad handwriting to begin with, I have some issues going on physically and it is affecting it even further.

Again, thank you for your continued cooperation. We will attempt to keep everyone updated on changes as quickly as possible.

Superintendent Clark

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