



New Lenox School District 122
102 South Cedar Road, New Lenox, Illinois 60451
Phone 815-485-2169 Fax 815-485-2236

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

October 25, 2020

Dear NLSD Families,

As stated at the recent Board of Education meeting, our school community has done an incredible job working together throughout the transition to in-person instruction. Daily self-certification, ensuring your child enters the bus/school with a mask, keeping students home if they are sick, practicing proper mitigation outside of school, and notifying us of exposure to positive cases assists with the continuation of in-person learning. Thank you for doing your part!

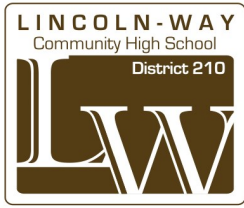
As we enter into week three, we continue to make adjustments regarding procedures. I would like to take this opportunity to communicate the updates as well as address recent inquiries.

- A chart containing the number of positive COVID-19 cases per building reported to the Will County Department of Health is available on our website. Please note, these cases occurred outside of school. The individuals affected have been informed. The information will be updated weekly on Monday by noon. Due to privacy laws, we will not disclose names or any identifying information. Here is the link to the [Weekly Reported COVID-19 Cases in NLSD 122](#).
- As the county reverts back to the State expanded mitigation orders, families have inquired regarding the impact to in-person instruction. All Illinois school districts must take into account many factors when making this determination. At this time, our intention is to continue to do all we can to safely keep the schools open. The Will County Health Department and State of Illinois have not directed or recommended that any Will County schools close at this time.
- Unfortunately, we have already had to quarantine staff/students. A student is quarantined if they are identified as a close contact with a COVID positive individual. A close contact is defined as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated. You will be notified if your child is a close contact.
- K-6 students in quarantine will be assigned work and the teacher will check in periodically throughout quarantine.
- If the Will County Health Department recommends an entire K-6 class go into quarantine, the class will receive remote instruction with their assigned teacher. In the event the teacher is unable to teach, a substitute will implement the remote responsibility.
- Students in Special Education Programs and all Jr. High Students are able to join the teacher's livestream instruction.

Keeping our schools open for in-person instruction is a priority. Attached to this correspondence is a joint communication from our surrounding districts encouraging families to follow the proper mitigation to allow us to remain open. I know we can do this NLSD! Throughout this unprecedented school year, you have proven time and time again that TOGETHER – we can achieve anything!

Sincerely,

Lori R. Motsch, Ed.D



October 25, 2020

Dear Lincoln-Way Area School District Families,



We have progressed from completely remote learning in the spring to in-person instruction this fall. We could not have made this progress without your support and cooperation. Our safety protocols that have been implemented as a result of the pandemic have been tested and we are extremely pleased with how our students, families, and staff have successfully implemented these health and safety requirements.



We are closely monitoring the positive cases of COVID-19 and when needed, have moved staff and students to remote learning for the required quarantine period. As a result of our close contact tracing, we have been able to determine that these cases traced to family, social gatherings and out-of-school extracurricular activities, for the most part. There has been little to no transmission of the virus in our schools. This is a testament to the diligent work our staff are doing to keep students social distanced and fully masked throughout the day and to you, our families for adhering to all the safety measures we have in place.



Last week, Governor Pritzker placed stricter mitigation strategies on our region due to a recent resurgence of positive COVID-19 cases. This is a reminder that we cannot let our guard down. With this recent uptick in cases, we are asking that everyone commit a greater attentiveness to this virus. We must continue to be vigilant in our mitigation and prevention strategies within our schools and throughout our communities. Our collective behavior, both in school and throughout our community, affects our health, the overall well-being of our entire community AND the ability to keep our schools open. Please continue to practice social distancing, mask wearing and hand washing wherever you are.



As your Superintendent of Schools, we thank you for your continued support and compassion during this pandemic.



Sincerely,



Scott Tingley L-W CHS 210	Sarah Rexroad LWASE 843	Maura Zinni Frankfort 157-C	Rusty Ragon Manhattan 114
Mark Cohen Mokena 159	Lori Motsch New Lenox 122	Barb Rains Summit Hill 161	