



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

November 9, 2020
Dear NLSD Families,

I hope that you were able to enjoy the beautiful weekend. The weather has been a true gift! We are entering week five of in-person instruction. As we get used to our new normal, we continue to reflect on procedures and adjust as necessary. Kindly read through the following important updates and reminders.

- In an effort to prevent multiple quarantines after the December holiday break, we are implementing the following timeline:
12/21/20-1/4/21: Holiday Break (no student attendance)
1/5/21-1/15/21: Full Remote Instruction
1/18/21: MLK Holiday (no student attendance)
1/19/21: Return to In-Person Instruction
By providing two weeks of remote instruction after the holiday break, we are essentially providing a quarantine period for staff/families who have had various holiday and/or travel exposure. **We strongly encourage families to participate in the quarantine to prevent additional quarantines when we return on January 19.** We realize the plan may create an issue for students who are in need of daycare. The New Lenox Park district will continue providing ACES/Trailblazers within our buildings for childcare. They will be offering childcare from 6:30am – 6:30pm. More information from the Park District will be shared as it becomes available.
- We are faced with rising positivity rates within our community. In turn, NLSD remains affected by what is happening outside of our schools. Families have inquired whether or not we will pivot back into mandated remote learning. As stated in a prior communication, 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. We will offer in-person instruction as long as the virus is not being spread within the schools and we can maintain staffing. As a reminder, if the State of Illinois mandates a shut down for schools in region seven, we will transition to the mandated remote learning plan.
- In order to keep our doors open, it is imperative that families answer the daily self-certification honestly. It has been brought to our attention that this is not occurring. **If your child has been exposed to a COVID positive individual, refrain from sending them to school.** If anyone in your family is planning to test for COVID, please do not send your child to school until you know the results.
- There have been inquiries regarding quarantines. If an individual tests positive for COVID, we strictly adhere to the [IDPH Guidance for Pre-K-12 Schools](#) which includes informing the Will County Health Department about possible exposures within the school/day care, including transportation, classroom, common areas and extracurricular activities. We understand the inconvenience this places on families. However, in order to provide in-person instruction, we are required to follow the guidelines. The largest amount of quarantining from a positive exposure occurs on the bus. We quarantine the entire row containing the infected individual, along with two full rows in front and two full rows behind the individual. If you would like to change your mode of transportation from bus to car, please notify your child's school.
- We continue to evaluate additional ways to provide instruction for our students in quarantine. We are hoping to make adjustments in the coming weeks.

NLSD strives to provide the very best education for our students whether it is in-person or remote. We are one of the largest elementary districts in the area providing these options for our students. Our staff is exceeding expectations in every aspect. If you have time this week, please consider thanking them for the incredible job they are doing. As always, I thank you for your constant support and patience as we continue to move forward.

Sincerely,

Lori R. Motsch, Ed.D
Superintendent