



# NEWLOTHROP AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

November 17, 2020

Dear Students, Parents, & Staff,

On Sunday evening, under Michigan Public Health Code (MCL 333.2253), the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director Robert Gordon authorized a new Emergency Order which has further limited gatherings in the State of Michigan. Under the new order, **Grades 9-12 will move to virtual learning, effective Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.**

*The transition to virtual learning will also include Grades 7 & 8 which are housed in the high school building that will follow the same effective dates as Grades 9-12.*

The order also suspends all athletics and extracurricular activities K-12, which will be effective immediately through at least December 8<sup>th</sup> or until these new orders are amended. Please expect additional detailed information from each building administration.

As a district, we would like to continue to offer **in-person instruction for our Developmental Kindergarten (DK)-6<sup>th</sup> Grade students through November 24<sup>th</sup> with a Remote Learning Day scheduled for Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> for all DK-12 students.** Due to family gatherings during Thanksgiving and the potential for greater exposure to COVID-19 to students and staff, *we are asking our DK through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students, families, and staff to transition to virtual learning starting Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> as well.* We will continue to offer Preschool for families during this time period, however latchkey services will not be available starting November 25<sup>th</sup> through December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Although virtual learning may look different from building to building or class to class, New Lothrop Area Public Schools is committed to providing the highest quality learning experience in the remote setting, which will include the following:

## Curriculum and Instruction

- All students will have access to resources to complete their work.
- For students with technology access, content will be delivered through the following online platforms:
  - Seesaw for grades DK – 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Google Classroom for 2<sup>nd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>
- We will be providing special education services in our buildings and/or remotely. This will be coordinated by the building case managers, social workers, At-Risk teachers, and Title I teachers.
- Teachers will be accessible through a weekly agenda of asynchronous instruction through pre-recorded videos/lessons multiple times per week with added synchronous components of live instruction, virtual meetings, and/or office hours.

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## Administrative Office

9285 Easton Road, Box 339  
New Lothrop, MI 48460  
810.638.5091  
Fax: 810.638.7277

## High School Office

9285 Easton Road, Box 339  
New Lothrop, MI 48460  
810.638.5054  
Fax: 810.638.5057

## Elementary School Office

9387 Genesee St., Box 279  
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- For those students without technology, the primary mode of delivery will be through hard copy instructional packets. Please contact your child(ren)'s respective building to coordinate the delivery of the instructional packets.

## **School-Home Communication**

- Teachers/Staff will be expected to make weekly contact with students and have two-way communication. This may be done through virtual meetings, email, phone, or communication within the online learning platform.
- Students will not be penalized for their inability to fully participate provided families stay engaged with school personnel in developing personalized and realistic education plans for their child. The district will do everything it can to meet student/family needs and allow for full participation.

## **Access to Technology**

- Devices (Chromebooks) will be made available to all students in grades DK-12.
- We will be distributing devices November 17<sup>th</sup> - November 24<sup>th</sup> in the high school office. There will be a waiver to sign and a \$20 non-refundable rental fee for each device loaned out. If there is a hardship, please email our Technology Assistant, Jean Emmendorfer at [jemmendorfer@newlothrop.k12.mi.us](mailto:jemmendorfer@newlothrop.k12.mi.us) and we will work with the family. The device will need to be returned by December 9<sup>th</sup> to your child's school.
- Students and parents will have internet access by using our elementary and/or high school parking lots.
- Please contact your child's building principal if access to internet connectivity will be problematic during building closures to brainstorm potential resolution to the issues, for example - scheduling times to come into the building to access the internet.

## **Meal Distribution**

- Grab and go breakfasts and lunches will continue to be available for pick-up for our enrolled students on Monday's and Wednesday's between 10:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. at our high school parking lot.

Please look for additional communication from the building principals regarding additional details, including daily schedules, device pick-up, etc. We will continue to provide updates as they become available. It is our priority to keep students and staff healthy and safe with the goal of resuming in-person instruction as soon as possible for our DK-12 students.

Sincerely,

Anthony Berthiaume, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

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