



Niles Community Schools

Administrative Services Center

Superintendent's Office

March 13, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians

Based on Governor Whitmer's order to close all K-12 schools, Niles Community Schools will be closed for students starting Monday, March 16, 2020. Due to Spring Break, Niles Community Schools will not reopen until Monday, April 13, 2020. All extracurricular activities, sporting events, field trips and community use of school facilities are also canceled. Teachers and staff will report to their buildings on Monday, March 16 to ensure our students have the tools they need to continue learning during this time. K-8 students were sent home with learning materials today, and additional details on food services, take-home lessons and other resources will be available soon. Students taking online courses are expected to continue their coursework.

IMPORTANT MEDICATION INFORMATION: If your student will need medications currently on file at school or medical equipment used in the school setting during the closure, these medications must be picked up by a parent at your child's school building on Monday, March 16, 2020 between 8:00am and 3:00pm. In the event you are unable to do so, please contact your school building directly.

Prevention

While schools are closed, a deep clean using EPA-recommended chemicals will take place. We also benefit greatly from our new HVAC systems, which regularly refresh the air in all environments.

The district continues to encourage students and families to follow the preventative measures that have been shared by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). These measures include:

- Frequently wash your hands with soap and water
- Cover your mouth when you sneeze or cough
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning sprays or wipes
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home when you are sick (children and adults) and contact your health care provider

The CDC does not recommend the use of facemasks for the general public

Symptoms

As a reminder, COVID-19 symptoms include fever, cough and shortness of breath. If your child displays any of these symptoms, we highly encourage you to visit a physician for counsel on treatment options. In addition, it is recommended that parents/guardians have a plan to designate a caregiver (under the age of 60) for a sick child(ren) if parents/guardians cannot stay home.

Next Steps and Updates

The safety and well-being of our students is a top priority. We will continue monitoring the development of COVID-19 and plan accordingly in partnership with local, state and federal health and government officials. **Please note: any pertinent parent updates will be sent via School Messenger, email and posted on our website (www.nilesschools.org) and social media (www.facebook.com/nilescommunityschools).**

Our website includes several resources for those with concerns about the virus. Additionally, the administration office will remain open during normal hours of operation, so please do not hesitate to contact us at 269-683-0732.

Our community has always come together in times of need, and we will get through this together.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dan Applegate