



# North Lyon County

## USD 251



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**Superintendent**  
Robert W. Blair  
**Clerk**  
Nicolette Nuessen  
**Treasurer**  
Stacie Horton

### Board of Education

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### Attendance Centers

**NLC Elementary School**  
Corey Wiltz, Principal  
804 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Box 497  
Americus, KS 66835  
Phone: 620-481-2086  
Fax: 620-481-2054

**Northern Heights High School**  
Peggy Fort, Principal  
1208 Hwy 56  
Allen, KS 66833  
Phone: 620-481-2087  
Fax: 620-481-2028

November 19, 2020

Dear North Lyon County Parents & Community,

We would like to take a moment to thank the North Lyon County Community for all of the positive support this fall as our school district has navigated through this unprecedented time. The many words of support and encouragement for our students and staff have been greatly appreciated.

As you know, last week our school district experienced a significant number of staff and student absences as a result of the current health challenge. At one point, 24% of our teachers were absent and 17% of our students were absent. Our building principals have been very creative in covering classes for absent teachers. This week the absence rate of teachers and students has slightly improved. Our school district goal is continuing to keep students engaged in the in-person educational model to the greatest extent possible throughout the 2020-2021 school year. In the event that the community spread of the COVID-19 virus makes it impossible to provide enough staff, our school district has developed a contingency plan for remote learning as a last resort. Our district leadership team is continuing to revisit and modify the plan as conditions change. We don't anticipate having to implement this plan anytime soon, however, we want our families to be prepared with a plan in the event we are forced at some point to transition to remote learning. In order to plan, our school district will be sending out a survey to all families to determine your level of Internet access so we can be prepared. In addition, our school district is beginning to compile a list of community volunteers to assist with staffing shortages in the future. If you are interested in being placed on a volunteer list, please contact the North Lyon County USD 251 District Office at 620-481-2085 for a volunteer application.

We also wanted to acknowledge a few things that are just around the corner for all of us, which includes colder weather, more time inside, and the onset of cold and flu season. Combining these factors with the current trend of rising COVID-19 positive cases across Kansas, we wanted to express the importance of continuing to put up the best defense to the virus – wash your hands often, avoid close contact staying at least 6 feet apart, cover coughs/sneezes, wear a mask, clean/disinfect surfaces frequently, monitor your health daily, and stay away from others when ill.

Respectfully,

Robert W. Blair, Superintendent

