

Distance Learning Information

WARROAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Warroad Public Schools' Families,

Warroad Schools will continue Distance Learning through Monday, January 18th.

Please read the November 24, 2020, message from Superintendent Dr. Shawn Yates:

The decision to remain in distance learning has been a very difficult one to make. It was not done without great consideration of county data and what is happening within our school and community.

The MN Department of Health recently stated "We have also learned that cases in schools are impacted by the amount of virus spreading in the community." We have found that to be very true for the Warroad School community. When cases started to increase in the community, cases began to rise within the school community. That was the reason for the reset that was to end after Thanksgiving.

If you have been following the number of cases in Roseau County that are reported daily on LifeCare Medical Center's site, you know that the cases locally are continuing to rise at an unexpected rate. During the last 3 weeks, the number of positive COVID cases in Roseau County have risen 571. Deb Landin, School Nurse has been tracing all known positive COVID cases of staff and students. Those numbers continue to rise along with the number of community cases.

With the expected rise in positive COVID cases following the Thanksgiving Holiday, the school has made the decision to continue with Distance Learning for our students. The quarantine time following close contact with a person who tests positive for COVID-19 is 14 days. That puts us to December 14th. Having school resume to In-Person Hybrid Learning on December 14th was considered. However, our School Nurse was concerned that staff and students could become exposed to COVID-19 during the time until Christmas Break. Deb Landin said she would not like to be responsible for staff and students being ill with COVID-like symptoms over the Christmas Holiday. Once again, it has been determined that a 14-day quarantine after the holidays would be in the best interest health-wise for our students and staff. Therefore, the decision was made to continue Distance Learning in the Warroad Schools until Monday, January 18th.

In order to prevent and contain further spread of COVID-19, it needs to be a "Community Effort!"

Nurse Deb wants to reiterate the message communicated by LifeCare Medical Center "We need your help. We need you to please follow the guidelines; for yourself, for your family, for your friends, for your neighbors. For Roseau County. If you go anywhere, MASK UP! If you feel sick, STAY HOME! If you need to be tested, call 463-4750."

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Deb Landin, School Nurse. We also ask that you keep her informed of any COVID-like activity that you are experiencing in your homes. Please call her at 386-6044 or 218-242-2583.

All learners should access educational content for all subject areas via Schoology as provided by teachers consistent with the in-person course plan. Review the following information and reminders for Distance Learning:

Attendance: All students will continue to be tracked for daily attendance. Attendance during Distance Learning should be marked by students or parents in the Infinite Campus Portal during school hours from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Absences and/or failure to engage in distance education may result in communication and contracts related to educational requirements with the school and local agencies.

School Schedule: School hours continue to be 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday and 8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday. New content is not required on Wednesday as teachers will be contacting students individually or in groups for content review and/or intervention. Students may be allowed in the building for special circumstances. Please arrange in person meetings with your course specific teacher.

Course Specifics: During the Distance Learning period, students may be expected to engage in regularly scheduled virtual meetings with their assigned teachers. Meeting details will be communicated to families and/or students by teachers. Students may be allowed to come into the school building for interventions or additional support during Distance Learning as scheduled by school staff. Due to the format of instruction, some high school courses may require specialty equipment and onsite practical experiences in labs as communicated by instructors.

Material Pick Up/Drop Off: As Trimester 2 begins November 30, 2020, materials may be needed for classes.

- Early Learners' Center and Elementary materials, including library books requested from the Media Center, are available for pick up in the Elementary or ELC entry areas as advised by teachers.
- Students in grades 7-12 should reference the enclosed Trimester Materials Exchange schedule.

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Grading and Learner Expectations: K-12 students are responsible for learning activities and growth tracked consistent with the in-person experience. Grades and school calendar grade reporting periods will be followed. The grade NP (not pass) will not be available as it was in the spring of 2020. Grade Point Average (GPA) weight bearing courses will continue to be counted for GPA calculation and credits will count toward graduation requirements for grades 9-12.

Technology: Elementary and High School students are expected to utilize district issued Chromebooks during distance learning to ensure optimal functionality of district applications and learning resources. ISD#690 is unable to guarantee access to programs or service on any personal devices. Families are encouraged to have internet access through local providers as feasible; a limited number of wifi hotspots are available for checkout through the school. For more information, contact the school office. The high school parking lot is equipped with wifi and may be accessed by students or families from personal vehicles with student devices. With prior permission, a student may utilize the school building for internet access.

Meals: Meals will continue to be delivered on scheduled school days for ALL students from Monday, November 30, 2020 - Friday, January 15, 2021. School buses will drop meals off at bus stops 4 hours later than the morning pickup time. Students should pick up meals at their morning bus stop location. Students who do not normally ride the morning bus, but want meals should contact the Transportation Department at 218-386-1153 to schedule a drop-off time. School meals are free for all students throughout the 2020-2021 school year.

Student Services: All students have access to the school counselor, support staff, and school nurse, as requested by students/families. Please call or email if additional assistance is requested.

Health Office: Please continue to report illnesses and quarantines related to COVID-19 to Licensed School Nurse Deb Landin at 218-386-6044 (Health Office) or 218-242-2583 (cell).

Athletics and Activities: Per the Executive Order 20-99, athletics and Community Education activities are on "pause" through December 18, 2020. As programming updates are made available, information will be communicated by Activities Director Mark Chamernick.

Kid Kare: Families registered for Kid Kare may access ISD#690's school aged child care during Distance Learning. Students will be organized into small groups of 9 students to 1 adult. Students are expected to bring their learning materials for school work times while at Kid Kare. New registration for Kid Kare should be communicated with Coordinator Della Knutson by calling: 218-689-2841. The number of students who can attend Kid Kare is limited.

Distance Learning requires participation and engagement from students; the support students' receive from their family is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your partnership with the educators of ISD#690 to check in with your child to ensure attendance is marked in Infinite Campus, monitor course progress in Schoology, and support their health and wellness. We understand how difficult this time can be. **Please** feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Our top priority is to promote the health and safety of all students, families, staff, and the entire Warroad community.

Sincerely,

Dennis Abernathy
Warroad High School Principal

Brita Comstock
Warroad Elementary/ELC Principal