

## **Friday Update**

### **November 5, 2021**

#### **Health Update**

For the week ending November 5, 2021, we had (2) two positive COVID-19 cases at Grant Intermediate and (1) one positive case of COVID-19 at MCMS, and three (3) positive cases at Locust Elementary. Per usual procedures, the IDPH guidelines were followed for quarantine and exclusions. We are experiencing an increase in our usual illnesses-stomach flu, strep, and fall allergies. Please continue to be conscientious in keeping sick children home. If you have any questions, please contact our school health offices. Locust School: 815-568-7632 (Mrs. Weidner) and Grant/MCMS: 815-568-5720 (Mrs. Turner). With the general flu season upon us, we continue to wipe all learning surfaces daily and use an aerosol spray in all common areas. Students are encouraged to wash their hands often or use hand sanitizer as needed.

#### **Parent Teacher Conferences**

Our Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Monday, November 22, 2021 from 1:00 – 8:00 pm and Tuesday, November 23, 2021 from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. Any specific questions about setting up an appointment for conferences may be directed to your child's teachers (grades Pre-K-5) or the MCMS school office 815-568-5720. Parent Teacher Conferences provide you with excellent feedback into your child's academic progress. Please do not miss out on this important opportunity to connect with your child's teacher(s).

#### **E-Learning Plan**

We will be presenting the District's E-Learning Plan in Room 11 at Grant Intermediate/MCMS at 6:45 pm on 11/17/2021. The E-Learning Plan is the district's platform that we use on snow days when students are not in attendance, but the district may count it as an attendance day. This allows the District to avoid adding extra days in May and June. The E-Learning Plan will also be published on the school website the following day. If you would like more information, please feel free to reach out to me directly at [ldamisch@marenog165.org](mailto:ldamisch@marenog165.org).

#### **Help Wanted**

We desperately need bus and van drivers as well as substitute teachers and aides. This is a perfect way to earn some extra income and still be home with your school-aged children. For more information on any of these positions, please call Maureen Matzer at 815- 568-8323.

#### **Lockdown Drill**

On Wednesday, November 10, 2021, Locust Elementary School will be conducting their Lockdown Drill. The Illinois School Safety Drill Act requires this safety drill (105 ILCS 128/20), during each academic year, schools must conduct a law enforcement lockdown drill. Law enforcement lockdown drills must be conducted on days and times when students are normally present in the school building and must involve participation from all school personnel and students present at school at the time of the lockdown drill. The appropriate local law enforcement agency shall observe the administration of the lockdown drill. The drill involves students and staff hiding in a locked classroom while police officers check and secure the building/hallways and does not involve any type of guns/gun noises. Students are made aware of the upcoming drill – it is not a "surprise" and the drill usually lasts about 15 minutes. Also required by the Illinois Safety Drill Act, we must notify you about the upcoming law enforcement lockdown drill and provide an opportunity for you to opt your child out of the drill. If you wish your student to be exempted from the lockdown drill, please contact Locust Elementary at 815-568-7632.

Have a wonderful weekend.

*Dr. Lea Damisch*, Superintendent of Schools