



## CROSWELL-LEXINGTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

November 21, 2021

Dear Cros-Lex Families:

I begin this communication with a sincere message of thankfulness to all of our Pioneer families and for your support to the Cros-Lex Schools and Community. I want to share my appreciation for our incredible staff, who collectively work tirelessly every day, on behalf of our students here at Cros-Lex. Thank You!

As we begin a short week in advance of officially kicking off the 2021-22 Holiday Season with Thanksgiving Day on Thursday, I wanted to share with you district calendar updates / changes, and the latest COVID-19 related updates and challenges we are facing in all of our schools.

It's important to inform all of Cros-Lex families that our local Sanilac County Health Department confirmed a rapid upward trend in COVID-19 cases this past month throughout the county, and across the Thumb region. According to the local health department, the total test positivity rate from November 9th - 15th in Sanilac County, reached 25.2% resulting in 420 total positive cases. As many of you may be aware through contact tracing notifications, Croswell-Lexington Community Schools has experienced a significant rise in positive cases as well. Please review our District dashboard [HERE](#) for the latest data related to positive cases in our schools.

With the rising numbers of positive COVID-19 cases in our schools, I would like to remind everyone of the important mitigation steps that are highly recommended by the CDC, MDHHS, and our local health department to take, in order to slow the spread of this disease, and keep our schools open for in-person learning. Please review the latest Center for Disease Control & Prevention Guidance for K-12 schools issued November 5, 2021 [HERE](#).

As a reminder, the only COVID-19 related mandate is mask wearing on all forms of public transportation. However, In addition to the CDC, the MDHHS, and our local Health Department, these organizations continue to strongly encourage the prescribed prevention strategies (linked above), particularly during the rapid rise in positive COVID-19 cases in our county. In addition to the CDC recommended prevention strategies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the Sanilac County Health Department has emphasized that if a student has symptoms (runny nose, sore throat, fever), please keep your child home, and get tested. Additionally, even though there is no quarantine mandate currently in our county, if your son or daughter is identified as a close contact, I thank each of you for taking the quarantine recommendation seriously.

For more information regarding COVID-19, please contact the Sanilac County Health Department at 810.270.5889. You can also call the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 Hotline at 888.535.6136 or visit [Michigan.gov/Coronavirus](https://Michigan.gov/Coronavirus) for answers to your COVID-19 questions.

Each day of the 2021-22 school year so far, Cros-Lex Schools has met the Michigan Department of Education's minimum attendance requirement rate of at least 75%. Last Monday, the District average just met 75% attendance requirement. If the attendance rate goes below 75%, that day of instruction will not count towards the required 180 days of mandatory instruction and we will be forced to use the allotted "snow days" or potentially extend the school year later into June. We will continue to monitor our daily attendance rates closely, and if necessary and as a last resort on targeted dates, pivot to the Michigan Department of Education approved distance learning options. We will continue to keep everyone updated in the coming weeks.

Parents who would like the option to move their child from full time face to face in - person learning at school into virtual learning at home, or parents who would like to move from virtual learning at home back in to face to face in - person learning at school, will be able to make the transition in advance of the second semester. Click [HERE](#) to complete the form **only if** you plan to switch your second semester schedule for your child. If your child will not be making a change for 2nd semester, please **do not** fill out this form. The deadline for making a virtual learning selection for the 2021-22 school year is a FIRM DATE of Monday, January 3, 2022. This deadline is required as our staff will need the necessary time to reconfigure portions of the master schedule in advance of the second semester. The first day of semester two officially begins Tuesday January 18, 2022.

**Upcoming Important Calendar Updates and Changes:**

| Date                            | Details   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday November 24, 2021     | No school Thanksgiving Break  |
| Wednesday December 8, 2021      | Student ½ Day; Teacher Full Day   |
| Friday December 10, 2021        | No students - Full Day Professional Development.<br><b>New approval pending Michigan Department of Education Day.</b> |
| December 20th - January 1, 2022 | Holiday Break begins  |
| Monday January 3, 2022          | No students - Full Day Professional Development.<br><b>New approval pending Michigan Department of Education Day.</b> |
| Tuesday January 4, 2022         | All students return from break.   |
| Friday January 14, 2022         | End of 1st semester.  |
| Monday January 17, 2022         | No students - Professional Development  |

Wishing everyone a Healthy and Happy Thanksgiving!

Daniel Gilbertson  
Superintendent