

## **Iroquois County CUSD #9**

**1411 W. Lafayette Street  
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**Dr. David Andriano, Superintendent**

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the first quarter comes to a close, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Unit 9 community. Unit 9 is a very special place to work and learn. We have a quality school system with dedicated students, professional staff, parents and community members. We are a TEAM, working together for the same goal... to help our students get the best education we can give them.

It is a privilege to serve our students and staff as your new Superintendent. The start of this year has been unorthodox to say the least and having a great start like we are experiencing must be credited to the students, staff and parents. Everyone is extremely focused so far and we are all pulling together to make things work.

I sincerely hope that the school year has started in a positive way for you and your family. All of us here at Unit 9 are totally committed to helping your son or daughter reach and exceed his or her academic potential. As long as the lines of communication remain open between school and home, we can attain our goals together. Please help us to maintain a positive relationship at all times. We want to work with you and for you in order to help our students succeed. Open communication between school and home, along with hard work and determined effort on the part of students, is the formula for success that never fails. It is more important now, more than ever before, as we go through these difficult times.

As we move into the second quarter of our year, I would like to touch upon and clarify a few things we are either trying to correct or improve upon.

### **Self Certification**

Self Certification sheets are due the second Wednesday of each month. Since we do not know how to differentiate between Covid-19 and Flu symptoms, we are asking you to keep all students in the household home if you are keeping any of your children home due to symptoms. All family members within the household should stay home from school pending contact and direction from Unit 9. Please read the updated form carefully.

### **Remote Learning Guidelines**

Unlike last year, where the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) relaxed the requirements for schools, attendance and grades are no longer waived for students. The requirements for each building are as follows:

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## **Nettie Davis**

When parents select the remote learning option, they should expect it to be for the duration of the 2nd Quarter.

**Attendance:** Daily Attendance is required.

- Parents are required to call Nettie Davis (815) 432-2112 everyday between 7:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. for your child to be counted present for the day. If you do not call the school office during this time, your child will be marked absent for the day.

**Grading:** Nettie Davis teachers will post student learning activities everyday on SeeSaw.

- Students are expected to complete all assigned learning activities to the best of their ability every day, in the order they are assigned.
- Teachers will grade remote learning activities.
- If you have any questions, please message your child's teacher on SeeSaw or send an email.

**Special Education:** In an effort to provide continuity of services, service providers will work directly with classroom teachers to plan modes of service. This will include live ZOOM instruction and assignments posted on SeeSaw.

## **Wanda Kendall**

**Attendance:** Students are required to login during one live session each day to be counted as present. Those sessions will be from 8:00am-8:45 am and 11:45am-12:30pm every school day.

**Grading:** Remote students will follow the regular grading system for Wanda Kendall. Assignments will all be assigned and have a due date and time through Google Classroom.

## **Glenn Raymond**

**Attendance:** Students are required to log-in to the attendance form through their google classroom each day between 7:45-3:15 pm

**Grading:** Students are required to log in to google classroom each day and complete the daily assignments. If there are any questions or concerns, they need to reach out to their teachers for help. Teacher's availability for remote students will be from 2:15-3:15 every day. They will set up zoom meetings, return emails, and contact students and parents when needed.

## WCHS

Because of Maroon and White schedules, teachers are not always available during the day as they are teaching in-person with students in class. As a result, Unit 9 has remote liaison contacts with whom the teachers will be contacting remote students to enhance communication.

The Freshman and Sophomore liaison is Miss Dunn. She can be reached at 815.432.2486 or [julie.dunn@watsekaschools.org](mailto:julie.dunn@watsekaschools.org) and is available from 7:45 am - 3:15 pm.

Junior and Senior liaison is Mr. Dickte. He can be reached at 815.432.2486 or [rich.dickte@watsekaschools.org](mailto:rich.dickte@watsekaschools.org) and is available from 7:45 am - 3:15 pm.

Guidelines have suggested anywhere between a five to seven day period in which paper could transmit Covid-19. In order to minimize the possibility of transmitting the virus and maximize safety between students and teachers, paperless homework and assignments will be stressed.

<p><b>Student Responsibilities (Daily)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Check your attendance AND Google Classroom for ALL classes DAILY between 7:45am - 3:15 pm.</li> <li>● Check school email 2x a day. (morning and afternoon) Respond to teacher emails within 24 hours.</li> <li>● Review assigned work.</li> <li>● Complete your assigned work.</li> <li>● Be available for synchronous assessments/meetings during school hours (7:45 am - 3:15pm) if scheduled by the teacher.</li> <li>● Ask clarifying questions when you need help or don't understand. Contact your teacher through email.</li> <li>● Be respectful to yourself, teachers and peers.</li> <li>● Have instructional integrity and honesty (will be assessed).</li> <li>● Check your grades and itemized scores in PowerSchool weekly.</li> <li>● Missing days may result in being reported to Truancy.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Parent/Caregiver/ Family Responsibilities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review work assigned to the student.</li> <li>● Reserve a space for students to complete remote learning work.</li> <li>● Encourage students to get enough sleep.</li> <li>● Set sensible time limits for recreational technology use.</li> <li>● Talk to students about their work every day.</li> <li>● Help students establish and follow regular daily routines.</li> <li>● Contact teacher during designated times (7:45am-3:15pm), when assistance is needed. (If after these hours, please note the teacher will contact you the next day during this time.)</li> <li>● Please remember that teachers have students in class every day so it may take until the end of the day to receive a response.</li> </ul>

<b>Teacher</b>	
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<b>Responsibilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Be available at scheduled times to answer student/caregiver questions on all remote learning days (2:00-3:15pm)</li> <li>● Provide timely responses on student work and questions within 24 hours on weekdays.</li> <li>● Post lessons and instructions regularly through Google Classroom.</li> <li>● Provide a range of meaningful learning opportunities that meet the needs of all learners during the period of closure.</li> <li>● Provide regular feedback to students on progress related to learning activities.</li> </ul>
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**Schedule Clarification**

Until further notice, we will remain dismissing at 2:00 p.m (2:15 at Glenn Raymond). This schedule will be used for all days of school, including the end of the quarter, unless notified by the Superintendent.

**Truancy**

The Unit 9 handbook states:

Students who miss 5% or more of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause (a recognized excuse) are considered chronic truants. Students who are chronic truants will be offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue. If chronic truancy persists after support services and other resources are made available, the school and district will take further action, including:

- Referral to the truancy officer
- Reporting to officials under the Juvenile Court Act
- Referral to the State’s Attorney
- Appropriate school discipline

**Extended Day/Tutoring/Help Program**

The Unit 9 administrative team is currently working on a program to support our students after dismissal. We anticipate this program to run through April and will be designed to meet the needs of our students at each building, for in-person and remote platforms. Transportation will be available. Information about the program will be communicated by each building administrator for their respective school.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Andriano, Superintendent

## Iroquois County CUSD 9

### Parent Guide for Quarantine due to COVID19

The following one-page document provides basic steps that are taken in regards to a positive COVID19 case, contact tracing and learning options. All guidelines below are determined by the Illinois Health Department, Illinois State Board of Education and our local health department.

1. Once the school/district is informed of a positive COVID19 case, the district begins contact tracing protocols within 24 hours and may take up to 48 hours to complete.
2. Any student/staff identified as a close contact will be required to quarantine for 14 days from the time of the last contact with the positive case: (See specific IDPH return guidelines on our webpage at stark100.com, page 8 of our Reopening School Plan)
  - a. The contact tracing window begins 48 hours prior to the date of a positive COVID19 diagnosis or when the initial COVID19 symptoms began (i.e. if a student tests positive with no symptoms on Friday, contact tracing begins for those in close contact on Wednesday and Thursday).
  - b. Close contact is defined as a person within 6 feet of a positive case for 15 minutes or longer.
  - c. In regards to busing, the guidelines state that we must go beyond 6 feet and use 3 rows of seating in front, behind and to the side of the positive person for 15 minutes or longer, as our measurement.
3. Once Contact Tracing is complete:
  - a. The local health department is informed by the school/district of all positive COVID19 cases and any quarantined students/staff.
  - b. The district will send out a mass communication message to all families and staff and follow up with a posting on our website.
  - c. Due to HIPPA Law, the school cannot release specific names, gender, race or any other specifics of the student or staff member who tested positive or is quarantined.
4. Students and staff who must quarantine will be contacted by school personnel within 24 hours AFTER completion of contact tracing and be given a return to school date.
  - a. Students impacted will be placed on e-Learning and the child's teacher will send communication within 24 hours of how the student will participate daily in e-Learning during the quarantine period.
5. All quarantined and Positive COVID19 students/staff must be released by the local Health Department before returning to school. Families/staff should contact the local health department 24 hours prior to their release date provided in the initial contact from school.
6. Students/staff placed on quarantine cannot test out of quarantine and will be required to complete the 14-day guideline.

**Thank you for your continued patience, humility and support!**