



Our best. Your best.

Below is your Monday update for the week of April 19, 2021.

Calendar Adjustment in June

One final adjustment has been made to the 2020-21 school calendar to maximize student instructional time. The current calendar has June 2, 3 and 4 as half days at the secondary level (June 3 and 4 are half days at the elementary level). The calendar is being adjusted so that June 2 (virtual Wednesday) and June 3 are FULL DAYS for students and staff, and on Friday, June 4, is a no school day for students. We are hopeful that this adjustment will ease burdens on families as they will no longer need to manage student half days.

Our teams are also actively working on the calendar for the 21-22 school year. We will share that information with families as soon as it is available.

Special Announcement

The increase in positive COVID cases since late March is alarming. While our approach to COVID has evolved, we are as committed as ever to mitigating the spread of the virus in Northview Public Schools. Our team continues to meet weekly with the Kent County Health Department to review community positivity rates and adjustments to school operations. The following factors will continue to drive our decisions:

- We continue to closely track and document positive cases of staff and students. A positive case immediately starts the process of contact tracing and notification to families, classrooms and the Kent County Health Department.
- We now have the weekly student-athlete tests to use as another representative data point. We have roughly 450 student athletes who get tested each week. This number gives us a snapshot of weekly positivity rates within our secondary schools.
- Every Friday the KCHD provides us with the average number of cases in the Northview school boundary over the last 14 days. This includes all residents, not just students.

If the above numbers increase, then changes may be made in school scheduling. We want all of the numbers to decrease. To work toward this we will continue the following practices:

- Strict adherence to mask wearing, including over the nose, during class sessions and outside during recess and athletics practices.
- Maintain cleaning protocols with additional custodial staff.
- Stress personal handwashing, and if soap and water are not available, the use of hand sanitizer.
- Cohorting during the school day to the extent possible. This includes eating lunch in classrooms, or assigned seating in the cafeteria.
- Encourage social distancing whenever possible.

Student-Athlete Covid Testing

Student-athletes in grades 7-12 are required to test for COVID-19 each week. All middle school athletes test at the high school from 8-11am every Wednesday, and high school athletes test from 11am-2pm every Wednesday. Makeup testing (emergency only) is available every Thursday from 7-8:30am. All testing takes place in the health room classroom (next to the Fitness Center entrance). If you have questions, please contact Lindsey Grinwis (lgrinwis@nvps.net) or Pat Marsman (pmarsman@nvps.net).

Updated COVID-19 Guidance

Due to increasing case rates and variant spread in Michigan, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has reinstated the standard 14-day quarantine period for individuals who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19. For more information, please visit:

<https://www.accesskent.com/Health/>

Sincerely,



Dr. Scott Korpak
Superintendent