

March 6, 2020

Good Morning, Inter-Lakes Community,

I am writing this morning in response to an article you may have seen or will see later today in the Laconia Daily Sun regarding COVID-19 and our School District.

The title and opening section might lead one to believe we have a member of our school district who has been exposed to COVID-19. ***Please be reassured that we are not aware of anyone who has been directly exposed or is sick with COVID-19.*** Here are the facts:

Known Facts for Inter-Lakes

- We do have members of our school community who recently traveled to areas that are identified as Level 3.
- The guidance from the Center for Disease Control for travelers returning to the USA from countries with a Level 3 status states: “(t)ravellers should stay home for 14 days after returning to the United States and practice social distancing.” The Level 3 guidance from the CDC is being followed within our School District, which means these members are not in attendance while they physically “social distance”. *I want to stress that these individuals have been and continue to be described as healthy and symptom free.* As the guidance from the CDC has been updated, we have responded accordingly.
- We do have members of our school community with confirmed cases of the flu which is similar to what we have had in past years. Just as in the past, these individuals are recovering at home.

As always, Inter-Lakes strives to ensure our school cultures are respectful and supportive of all members. This challenging period is an opportunity for us to demonstrate through our positive actions that we value and care about one another. While individuals physically “social distance” and when they return to school after the appropriate period, I have confidence in who we are as a greater school community that they are and will be treated in a manner that is consistent with true Laker Pride.

Field Experiences with Out-of-State and Out-of-Country Travel

At this time, we are not making any decisions about upcoming field experiences which are planned for out-of-state and out-of-country. Rather, we are closely monitoring the local and global health environments and will determine within a reasonable period of time if we need to adjust our current plans – with that said, things may change after we make a decision in a “reasonable period of time” and we may have to quickly adapt to these changes.

Thursday, March 12th – Shifting from a Student Day to Staff Workshop Day

Thursday, March 12th is shifting from a student day to a staff workshop day; ***this is not because we have any current or predicted known issues with COVID-19.*** It is because we are aware that schools throughout our country are encouraged to have plans in place should there be a reason that

necessitates an extended closure. The reality such plans take time to develop; we need this time as a staff to train and create these online learning environments and alternatives to online use, if necessary. Therefore, students will not attend school on Thursday, March 12 as it will now be a staff workshop day. Students will not be required to make up this missed day of school. It is my sincere hope that we never need to use this for an extended closing. The work developed, however, will allow us to consider possible use during weather related closures – in simpler terms, it will let us consider using “Blizzard Bags” in the future. Thank you in advance for your support of this time and for the adapting you will have to do for this change to your family’s regular routine.

If you have questions, please reach out to your child’s School Nurse, Principal and/or myself. I wish your family well during this challenging time.

Respectfully,

Mary Moriarty
Superintendent of Schools