

10/30/2020

NMCS Community,

We wish to thank you for your support and partnership as we are committed to the best possible instruction and experience for all students. Since our schools opened in August, we have worked hard alongside our families at following our School Reopening Plan and have followed protocols that allowed for in person instruction, extra-curricular, and athletic opportunities through fall break.

Keeping our schools safely open for students and staff is our number one priority. NMCS has emphasized cleaning procedures, hand-washing, classroom modifications, facemask protocols and social distancing guidelines throughout the school year and in-person instruction has not been interrupted through fall break.

Over fall break, we experienced our first positive tests for students and a staff member. This resulted in quarantining of students due to contact tracing and led to quarantining several of our faculty/staff. Due to the number of staff quarantined, the decision was made to move to remote learning for our Middle/High School this past week through Friday, October 30. Many of our students and half of our staff are able to return from quarantine this coming Monday.

At this time, **North Miami Middle/High School plans to reopen to in-person instruction this coming Monday, November 2** and our Elementary will continue to operate as usual with in-person instruction as well. Extracurricular activities can re-start this weekend on Saturday, October 31.

NMCS plans to stay open physically in both buildings as long as we can remain safe. There still could be short-term closures or schedule changes due to specific conditions to operate the school day safely. These decisions are never taken lightly, and all decisions are made collaboratively with our local Miami County Health Department, Administration and personnel, and our local school board.

Moving forward, we need your continued support, partnership and help. As you are aware, Miami County is "Orange" using the ISDH color-coded map. The cases and positivity rate in Miami County reflect medium to high community spread. There is fatigue with this pandemic, but we should not lower our guard. **ISDH has proposed an acronym "SMASH", which stands for Social distancing, Mask wearing, Avoid crowds, Stay home if you are sick, and Hand washing are areas that everyone can do. In addition, please continue to self-monitor COVID related symptoms and do not send children to school if symptoms of illness are present.** We have posted the latest COVID symptoms on our webpage.

Lastly, we appreciate your patience, cooperation, and understanding. We have a great Warrior Community! If you have any questions regarding procedures, please contact your building principal.

Respectfully,

Kenneth Hanson