

Important Message from the Superintendent

As the district has been communicating for a couple of weeks via our website, we have been closely following the situation surrounding COVID-19. The Administrators have been meeting with and receiving regular updates from the Warren County Department of Health, the New York State Department of Health and the New York State Education Department as well as our Local BOCES.

It's important to note, while the district **does not have a confirmed case** of COVID-19, in an abundance of caution we have made several decisions to help minimize the spread of the virus in our school community.

Beginning Monday, March 16 through Sunday, April 19, the North Warren Central School District will be doing the following:

- Postponing all field trips
- Postponing all co-curricular travel
- Suspending the use of the school facilities by any outside groups
- Suspending parent volunteers and unnecessary guests in the school buildings

In addition, please note the following events have been canceled or postponed:

Canceled:

3/17: HVCC and Siena College trip
3/19: SADD Leadership conference
3/21: NWTa Free Community Breakfast
3/25 Spring College Caravan
3/30: Trade and Medical Fair being held at NW

Presentation change:

3/20: PK-6 Conferences will now be via phone at your assigned conference times

Postponed:

3/18: National Honor Society Induction ceremony
3/27 and 3/28: Addams Family-NW play
4/3: Elementary Fun Night
4/4: Cops Vs. Seniors Basketball and all prior practices
4/7 and 4/8: Character Assemblies
4/8: Blood Drive
Winter Sports Awards

Please note this is not meant to be an all-inclusive list of events. If you have questions about any event or program please don't hesitate to contact one of the school offices to check the status of a program.

Families will be notified of any changes that will occur post-April break as we continue to monitor the situation over the next four weeks.

In regards to athletic practices and events, the district will be following guidance from the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) and will communicate accordingly.

Cleaning and disinfection practices continue

We also continue to take normal flu season precautions to disinfect and sanitize the school buildings, specifically common touch points such as door knobs and hardware, hand railings, etc. A collective effort is being made by the custodial staff to take these cleaning precautions both during and after-school hours, as well as on the weekends.

Closure of schools

The local health department will notify schools if and when a school must close due to COVID-19 and when a school can reopen. **Schools are not expected to make decisions about closing schools due to COVID-19 on their own**, and will seek specific guidance from the state or local health officials to determine if, when, and for how long to take these steps.

Again, the decisions outlined in this letter have been taken in an abundance of caution to keep the safety of our students and staff a priority. Our ability to effectively limit exposure to COVID-19 is our main intent.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

Michele G. French
Superintendent of Schools