

March 15, 2020

Dear Lamoille North Families and Staff:

Per the most recent guidance from Governor Scott and the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) we have escalated contingency planning for the closing of schools for students by the end of the day Tuesday, March 17. This directive will last through April 6 - but may need to be extended.

Lamoille North schools will remain open on Monday and Tuesday. Parents may choose to keep their children home due to concerns related to COVID-19 or upon medical advice or guidance from the Vermont Department of Health. **These absences will be excused.** Other individual student work will **not** be sent home this week as faculty and staff will be focusing on keeping learning on track in schools, supporting all in following prevention guidelines, and planning for instruction and essential services remotely.

We are asking for your support and understanding with the following steps specific to the schools of Lamoille North:

1. Continue to stay home if you or your children are sick. Wash hands frequently with soap and water and avoid touching your face. Cover coughs or sneezes with a tissue, and keep a supply of essentials and medicines on hand.
2. Outside of school, please practice social distancing, including avoiding playdates, sleepovers, group gatherings, and unnecessary travel.

3. For the next two days please follow your normal school attendance procedures, and notify your child's school if they will not be attending. Absences **will** be excused.
4. Adults are asked not to enter the school building, except when necessary for educational services. Please call your school office and remain in the lobby or entrance area if it is necessary to approach the building.
5. Student-led and family/teacher conferences for this week are postponed. More information will follow on options for teachers, parents, and student communication options later.
6. School-specific communications about plans for remote student learning will follow within the week.
7. We will begin providing meals for all youth up to 18 as soon as possible. Look for more information soon.
8. For ongoing communications, we will continue to provide updates as quickly as we have them.

We are continuously monitoring local developments and consult daily with the Vermont Department of Health and Agency of Education and will take additional local action as needed. Many of you have extended offers of help and we are immensely grateful for that. We will work hard this week to ensure fluidity of operations and to be ready with our plan to continue to support the needs of our students and families. We are fortunate to be a part of such a caring community.

My best to you,

Catherine Gallagher
Superintendent of Schools
Lamoille North Supervisory Union

