



NORTH MAC CUSD #34

July 29th, 2021

Dear North Mac Nation,

I hope your summer is going well and this letter finds each and every one of you in good health. I want to start by commenting once again that throughout the 2020-2021 school year I remained very impressed and extremely proud of the tremendous effort of our teachers, staff, students and parents as they worked together to maintain instruction throughout what was a very difficult school year. While we did deal with our fair share of student and staff quarantines, we were able to keep students learning throughout the school year. In addition, we had a very successful summer school program to help many students close the learning gap created by the pandemic. We fully expect to continue with full in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year and the following plan will provide details on how we hope to do that.

As we continue to plan for the 2021-2022 school year, there are still several questions that we are working on to provide the safest and best possible learning environment for all students as they return back to school on August 17, 2021. In order to meet state and federal requirements, each school district is required to provide a plan to return to school. Since North Mac maintained in-person instruction during the 2020-2021 school year, our previous reopening plan that was approved in July of 2020, and updated throughout the 2020-2021 school year, continues to be valid. You will find a copy of that plan updated for the new school year on our district website. Like all decisions connected to the COVID-19 pandemic, information is subject to change as new guidance is given by the CDC, IDPH, ISBE, MCPHD, and or the Governor's Office. As you can clearly see, public schools in the state of Illinois must answer to several entities, and navigating the various guidance and protocols remains challenging. However, with your support we had a very successful 2020-2021 school year and I know that the upcoming new school year will be no different! The support and understanding we have received from all stakeholders within North Mac Nation was commendable and we appreciate that support and your patience.

North Mac CUSD #34, along with the MCPHD, will monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, positivity rates, and outbreak occurrences to guide our decisions as to the level of layered mitigation strategies we will be using. We highly encourage all eligible students and staff to get vaccinated. At this time, per guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education, remote instruction will only be made available for non-

vaccinated or vaccine ineligible students who are under quarantine as directed by the local health department or IDPH. North Mac CUSD #34 will operate in accordance with the new updated guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools, administered on July 9th from the CDC. These guidelines include the following:

- Masks are highly recommended but not required at this time.
- Unless exempt by CDC order, passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school transportation.
- Maintain 3 feet of social distancing as much as possible.
- Additional cleaning and disinfection will continue to be utilized.
- Increased handwashing and use of hand sanitizer will be continued.
- Contact tracing, quarantining, and isolation will continue to be directed by the MCPHD.
- Daily self-monitoring and symptom checking will continue to be required for all students and staff.

We want to continue to be a resource for all families as we plan for the return of students for this coming school year. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me or your child's principal. We are here to serve and support you and your children this coming school year and beyond and we look forward to seeing our students on August 17th.

Thank you again and Go Panthers!!
Dr. Jay A. Goble, Superintendent

