



Johannesburg-Lewiston Area Schools

November 25, 2020

Dear Cardinal families,

In an abundance of caution, and due to multiple factors, the district has made the difficult decision to have students remain in remote learning at this time. We will plan to welcome all students back to face to face learning on December 9th. Obviously, we know information is changing rapidly and that we may need to make adjustments to that date in the future. Students are expected to return to remote learning on Monday, November 30th.

We ask that families do their part in supporting the community against the spread of this virus that for some is minor and for others can and has resulted in death. The guidelines from the CDC scientists are just that. Guidelines from scientists who are working around the clock and around the world to beat this back. This is a health crisis that we, or someone we know, has already been impacted by. Science has proven mask wearing, social distancing, and good hygiene practices can help stop the spread of the virus. My family has made the difficult decision to each remain in our own homes for Thanksgiving, with zoom get-togethers scheduled throughout the day. I have never cooked for such a small Thanksgiving, but I expect lots of leftovers!

I know remote learning is not the same as students being in the classroom. Our staff is working extra hard to try to make remote learning as engaging as possible while still moving students forward. It is required, so if you're having difficulties, please reach out to your child's teacher for support.

Be thankful. These are strange times, difficult for many, frustrating for others. Emotions are high and stress can be felt by those around you. Find joy in the pieces you can be thankful for - like new technology, the first snowfall that is fantastic for making snowmen, or simply the smiling faces of your children.

Happy Thanksgiving, stay safe and healthy.

Your Partner in Education,

Katy

Katy Xenakis-Makowski
Superintendent
Johannesburg-Lewiston Area Schools