



Message from North Muskegon Public Schools

Norse Nation,

First - CONGRATULATIONS CLASS of 2020!!!!!!

As always, I hope this communication finds you and your loved ones well! This update is being sent with the intent of hoping to provide clarity, answers to questions, and guidance regarding our continued path forward. I am so thankful for our full school community continuing to give their BEST, good faith effort - thank you! We continue to celebrate our strengths and recognize our limitations as a unique and very special school community - thank you for doing your part!

Please completely review this communication (lots of info!). Even if you believe a certain piece may not pertain to you, it may help you accurately answer a question for others in our school community. We are fully aware there will be more questions to come - this document is a continuation of our communication process.

As a reminder, please be certain to make you and your family's own needs and well-being a priority. Please know that I/we are always willing to support in any way. Do not hesitate to call, text, or email your student(s) teacher, me and/or anyone from your administrative team - we are here to help in any way we possibly can - together, we are an AMAZING SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

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Relationships: This is always the most important thing; however, during these times of uncertainty, this has never been more important. Our staff is embracing the following... Relationships before rigor, grace before grades, patience before programs and love before lessons. We are in the business of kids and we will - support them, prepare them and be available to them. Make them laugh. Make them smile. We know this will help us, as well!

Class of 2020:

CONGRATULATIONS!!!! Today, May 8th is your last official day of high school! You have made all of our community proud during this incredibly trying time! Keep your heads held high, Norse Grads!

Please know our Grads continue to be a top priority. Below are a few things coming up:

- Keep an eye on the Lake St. billboard starting May 11.... Just a little teaser!
- Banner to be hung over Ruddiman soon
- Individual yearbook photo yard signs to be placed along Ruddiman
- "Graduation Day" - May 22nd - We will celebrate our graduates!
- Virtual Senior Honors /All HS awards Assembly May 29 at 6pm
- GRADUATION CEREMONY - To ease any unneeded and unintended stress/anxiety, our Graduation Ceremony is being indefinitely postponed until the State of Michigan provides lawful and safe direction. Please know - Graduation will happen! We will promote details when appropriate information and guidance is known. We wish our Seniors all the best and look forward to CELEBRATING THEM when safe and appropriate!

Student Expectation of Educational Engagement: Please note, the expectation has been and will continue to be that students be fully engaged in the learning process. If your child(ren) has any barriers hindering their educational engagement, please notify us so we can assist. At this point, we stand at 97% student engagement level! This is awesome - thank you families for your dedication to education even during tough times!

Student Devices Distribution: We are very proud to say that NM has assured ALL students (DK-12) in our district have access to a device! This is a wonderful testament to the incredible commitment our community has to our students - thank you!

If your child(ren) is having an issue with their device, please reach out to your principal or Mr. Henderson for assistance.



Learning Materials: If your family is in need of learning materials, please contact the Superintendent's Office (719-4100). Through the generous donation of our Norse Education Foundation, we have the ability to assist families that need school supplies. You tell us your need and we will get it shipped right to your door!

Counselors & Social Workers: Students needing support from itinerant staff are able to schedule communications with each of them via email. Itinerant staff will make contact with students they regularly meet with to offer support, assistance and check-in to see how students are managing during the shutdown. Our Counselors and Social Workers will also be assisting with any of our students needing assistance. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you feel your child(ren) could use this support.

- Theresa Seaberg - [tseaberg@nmmps.net](mailto:tseaberg@nmmps.net)
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### [On-Line Resources](#)

Grades and Credit/No Credit:

- HS Grading = Students have the option of keeping the grade they had when the shutdown began, work with their teacher to advance the grade they had at the start of the shutdown or move to Credit/No Credit as desired (Your student will receive a survey to assist them in deciding which option they/you would prefer. Please work with your student to choose the option that fits their needs the best.)
- MS Grading = Feedback and tracking, the best we possibly can, to know where kids are performing within each essential standard.
- Elem Grading = Feedback and tracking, the best we possibly can, to know where kids are performing within each essential standard.
- Insufficient Evidence was added to MS/HS Scales to show standards/tests that were not touched.
- This can always be changed in the future.
- Per Governors EO, a student's grade can not drop over this time.

Food Distribution: Our NM Food Distribution Site occurs every Wednesday from 10am - Noon and is available for ALL students 18 years old and younger. Please pull behind school on Moulton and look for the smiling faces ready to assist! We are averaging over 200 students per week (that's just under 3,000 meals per week) - thanks Food Service Staff!



OK2Say: Students who wish to confidentially report any concerns during the mandated shutdown, are welcome to utilize [OK2Say](#).

“Last Day of School” - Yes, we will have a “last day of school” when we are allowed to do so. This will be a day of celebration! None of us are sure of the date, but it will happen. We all (students, staff, families and the community) need this! More to come!

Summer Learning Opportunities: We will have a Summer Educational Program. At this time, this program will be for ALL students that choose to make use of this opportunity. Details are currently being worked out - more to come!

Calendar for 2020/21: As everyone is aware, there are MANY questions that need some level of answers before we can possibly have a “solid” plan for next school year’s calendar. At the time the shutdown was enacted, the district was involved in calendar negotiations with the Teacher’s Union. In some ways, it is a blessing with all of the currently unanswered questions that we had not finalized a calendar back in March. We continue to work through the development of next year’s calendar while keeping an eye on information relative to our physical distancing requirements and the plan for potential easing over time of our restrictions. It is quite likely that our school calendar will need to look different than in the past. Please watch for calendar updates coming soon as more information is learned - we know everyone is anxious to have this information.

You have our commitment, NM School Community, that we (NMPS Staff) will do everything in our power to provide your/our kids the skills needed to advance. This will be an ongoing process, but it will be accomplished. The NM School Community will continue to do all needed to meet the needs of OUR kids! You are appreciated! Stay Engaged! Stay Connected! We are in this Together!

TAKE CARE OF YOU!