



Newburg United School District No. 54



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April 3, 2020

Dear Parents,

Our first full week of teaching by distance learning is now completed. I hope everything went well. I am sure everyone is probably still a little anxious on how this is going to work and also possibly a little overwhelmed. You are not alone. I think everyone is feeling this right now. I think the teachers, students, parents and yes myself as Superintendent feel a little anxious and overwhelmed. This will get better as we move forward and become more comfortable with distance learning. I would encourage students and parents to make sure and reach out to your teacher, Mr. Beaudrie or myself when you have questions or concerns. We are all here to help. Communication and patience will be the key as we move forward. I can be contacted through my email at jason.a.kersten@k12.nd.us.

As we continue to use zoom as a platform to meet with our students, I would request our students make sure they are using their video to enable our teachers to see them. I would also ask the students make sure their name shows up on their screen instead of i-phone for example. If you are able, I would also ask this be done on school devices as well. This will allow the teacher to take roll. The video also allows the teacher to see the students which can give this experience more of a classroom setup. I am encouraging staff to still continue to build relationships with their students and it is difficult if they cannot see their faces and know who they are talking to. I would ask parents to please visit with their children regarding this. I think the video showing the student is important and will make this transition easier as we move forward. Thank you in advance for your help.

I would like to remind everyone to follow the guidelines of social distancing both the President and Governor have set. If you are following the news, a number of the cases are now becoming community transmitted. It is important to keep the six feet of distance as well as to not have groups of more than ten people. If you are not feeling well, stay home. I know this can be very difficult, but it is important we all do our part to help stop the spread of this virus.

In closing, I would again like to thank everyone for their patience, flexibility and understanding as we all work together in giving our students the best education we can through distance learning. The district and I appreciate your support and thank you for everything you are doing at home in encouraging your children to be present and work hard in getting their assignments completed.

Jason A. Kersten
Superintendent

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