



Newburg United School District No. 54

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Parents,

I hope this letter finds everyone doing well. It is hard to believe our first quarter is coming to an end. The fall has been interesting and gone by very fast.

As the state and school districts continue to be effected by the COVID-19 Pandemic, I wanted to take the opportunity to let you know how the school will move forward in our SMART RESTART plan after the Governor's announcement changing Bottineau County's color to yellow. Within our plan, the yellow stage does give the school district the ability to require masks be worn at all times while on the school bus or in the school building. Currently, the wearing of masks has been recommended and not required. A decision now needs to be made on how our district will move forward while Bottineau County is in the yellow phase. After much deliberation, I have decided masks will not be required at all times right now. In looking at the number of cases in the county, I feel the number of positive cases in our community and school (none) at this time does not warrant to mandate masks. I will continue to monitor the situation moving forward. If something were to change within our county or community, a decision could be made to require the wearing of masks at all times. If there is a change, communication will be sent to you as parents regarding the change.

Bottineau county changing to yellow does affect attendance to our varsity sports. The attendance for the football game this evening has been decreased from 500 to 250 people. Because the event is outside, masking will not be required unless you are not able to social distance. The attendance for the remaining home volleyball games has also went from 500 to 250 people. Because this event is held inside the gym, masking is required. Elementary basketball games in Newburg will continue to be parent and student body. Attendance for the visiting team is parents only. A maximum of 250 people in the gym.

I would like to encourage parents to go to our website and check out the tutorials our staff have created. These short tutorials walk parents through how to use the technology students have in case our school needs to use distance learning. This is an excellent resource for parents to help their children use the different platforms our district will use for distant learning. I would like to thank our staff for creating these videos as resources for our parents.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the school. I hope everyone has a great weekend.

Sincerely,

Jason Kersten, Superintendent