



Newburg United School District No. 54



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Patrons,

I hope this letter finds everyone doing well. It has been a very interesting week for our school district as we move forward and plan how the school year will look after the Executive Order by the Governor last Friday.

As everyone is well aware of now, Governor Burgum has issued a mask mandate state wide. Within the Executive Order, all winter sports and activities have been suspended until December 14, 2020. This includes but is not limited to practices and open gyms. Because of this order, our Jr High Girls Basketball season is on hold and no winter sports practices are being held. Mr. Beaudrie and I have been in contact with Westhope on how to possibly proceed with the Jr High season if the suspension is lifted on December 14. Once a decision is made regarding their season, information will be sent home to parents.

The Executive Order does require masks to be worn while on school grounds. Students are required to wear masks in the school even when social distancing can be done. They are also required to be worn outside when the 6 feet social distancing cannot be maintained. The school is able to give mask breaks during the days. This will be done to give the students a break and get some fresh air during the day.

This Executive Order also effects Physical Education (PE) and Music. Mask may be temporarily removed for PE when the level of exertion makes it difficult to wear a face covering. During choir and band, face coverings can be removed temporarily if physical distancing can be maintained. The district is in the process of making changes within the room and class sizes to meet the parameters of being socially distanced. The school will again make sure students are getting mask breaks during the school day.

I realize there are still many questions and concerns each of you may have with this Executive Order. I would encourage individuals to go to the school website (<https://www.newburg.k12.nd.us/>) There are three documents that may help answer some of the questions or concerns. Those documents are winter activities FAQ, NDHSAA Executive Order FAQ and DOH Mask Mandate Information.

I would like to thank everyone for their patience as we work through this unprecedented time. Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Jason A. Kersten
Superintendent