



ST. FRANCIS DE SALES SCHOOL

November 17, 2020

Dear St. Francis de Sales School Families:

This afternoon we heard that Emerald Elementary School and Manistique Middle School will be moving to remote learning for two weeks, effective immediately. At this time, the health department is **not** recommending that St. Francis de Sales School close. Our building will remain open for in-person instruction until further notice. Due to some logistical issues with ending in-person instruction so abruptly, Manistique Area Schools is not able to provide bussing tomorrow, November 18th, 2020. All bus students from St. Francis de Sales School can resume riding the bus starting Thursday, November 19th. This privilege will be provided until further notice. If something changes, we will let you know immediately.

We may not be directly affected; however, now more than ever, we need to work together to keep our kids safe and, therefore, able to attend school in-person. It is important for all of us to stay vigilant as our positive cases continue to rise in Schoolcraft County and the entire Upper Peninsula.

Please remember that symptoms of COVID-19 include, but are not limited to, fever, cough and shortness of breath. If you or any member of your family exhibit these symptoms, please contact your medical provider for advice immediately and do not send your child(ren) to school. You may send your child(ren) to school after your medical provider has provided guidance. Symptoms usually appear 2-14 days after exposure.

The CDC recommends the following best practices to help prevent the spread of this global pandemic:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid close contact with those who are sick.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.
- Stay at home, if possible.
- If you must go out, practice social distancing, leaving at least six feet between you and other people.
- Avoid gatherings that include more than 10 people.

As a community, it is up to us to slow and stop the spread of this virus. We pray for all our friends at Manistique Area Schools, that they will persevere through this challenging time.

God bless,

Don Erickson
Principal