North Central Area Schools

P. O. Box 159 W5465 East Third Street Hermansville, MI 49847

Phone: 906-498-7737 Fax: 906-498-2235

Jennifer Eichmeier, Superintendent/Elementary Principal

July 20, 2021

North Central Families,

I sure hope your summer is going well and you are getting a chance to relax and enjoy the sunshine! There have been many questions about what our return to school will look like this fall. This letter will hopefully clear up any questions you have and communicate our plans as of today. These plans could change by law or lawful order. Athletics will follow the rules set forth by the MHSAA.

Return to School 2021-22
FAQ's

What will the NCAS instructional model look like in 2021-22?
We will be holding in person, face to face instruction 5 days a week for all grades PreK-12th.

Will there be an online/virtual option?
The virtual/online model used last school year will not be an option. Michigan Virtual classes will continue as they have in the past at NCAS.

When does school start?
The first day of school will be August 26th. This is a half day, with dismissal at 12:00cst. Please visit ncajets.org to view a copy of the 2021-22 school calendar.

Are face masks required at school?
No. Face masks will be optional for staff and students. However, masks will no longer be provided by the district.

Will students be required to get the COVID-19 vaccination to attend NCAS?
No. There will be no requirement for COVID-19 vaccines.

Will students be separated, cohorted, by vaccination or non vaccination status?
No. Vaccination is a personal decision and all students will be together as normal.

What about playgrounds, cafeterias, classrooms? Will students be cohorted or required to maintain social distance?
No. These orders have passed and we are returning to our pre-pandemic practices.

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Will contact tracing continue?
Because schools are required to report communicable diseases to their local health department, positive COVID-19 cases will be reported to the health department. Parents will also be notified if their child has been exposed, similar to our procedures for other communicable diseases.

Will NCAS quarantine those students who have been exposed to COVID-19?
No. Any quarantine instructions will come from your local health department, which depends on your residency. NCAS will no longer be quarantining exposed individuals.

Will student athletes be required to test for COVID in order to participate in athletics?
No. MDHHS and MHSAA lifted all requirements for student testing as of June 22, 2021.

Will breakfast/lunch be free for students at NCAS for 2021-22 school year?
For students in grades PreK-8 breakfast and lunch will be FREE. For students in grades 9-12, there will be a breakfast and lunch charge. Rates are being determined at this time in accordance with the Federal Government Guidelines. Additional information will be in back to school paperwork.

Please continue to visit the school website for updates and additional information about school and athletic programs. As a reminder, our secretaries will not return to the building until early August. Office hours vary throughout the summer, so please leave a message and we will direct your questions to the appropriate personnel. We are looking forward to a “return to normal” school year. Enjoy the rest of your summer!!!

Warmest Regards,

Jennifer J. Eichmeier
Superintendent
North Central Area Schools