



Independent School Dist. No. 857
100 County Road 25
Lewiston, MN 55952
(507) 523-2191

Gwen Carman, Superintendent
Cory Hanson, High School Principal • Dave Riebel, Elementary/Intermediate Principal

Announcement from Superintendent Gwen Carman

November 15, 2020

In a change from the announcement on November 13th, Lewiston - Altura PK – 12, will continue in a Distant Learning Model through at least January 4, 2020. ***The PK – 4 Elementary School is now included in the Distance Learning Model.*** I sincerely apologize for this change as I am deeply aware of how this decision impacts our elementary students and parents. As much as I want our elementary students to have the benefit of face to face instruction in classrooms with their teachers, the continued rise in COVID-19 cases locally and regionally, and the unpredictability of virus spread make distant learning the safest option at this time.

Elementary parents may pick up materials for PK – 4 students from 1pm – 6pm on Monday, Nov. 16 from the Elementary School main entrance. Please contact the school if there are issues needing to be addressed for materials pick up.

Families in need of childcare may contact Cardinal Club Coordinator Kelli Loveless at kloveless@lewalt.k12.mn.us or 507-522-3212. There will be no instruction on Monday, November 16th or December 7th for staff planning. We will have our first late start of the year on December 21. Students will receive a schedule prior to that date from their school.

Parents of Gr 5-12 students with significant needs are encouraged to contact their teachers or principal regarding options to support them during Distant Learning. Our faculty and administration are committed to supporting students academically and emotionally the very best we can throughout this challenging school year. PK-6 Principal Dave Riebel can be reached at driebel@lewalt.k12.mn.us or 507-523-2194. Grades 7-12 Principal Cory Hanson can be reached at chanson@lewalt.k12.mn.us or 507-522-3232. All teachers and support staff will continue to report to their assigned schools each school day until further notice.

Breakfast and lunch pickups will resume on Tuesday, November 17th, at the Elementary and High Schools in Lewiston, at the Intermediate School in Altura, and at the Stockton Community Center from 6:00am – 8:00am on school days. These meals are free for all district residents 18 years and younger. On Fridays, families may pick up additional meals for Saturday and Sunday. We encourage all families to take advantage of this opportunity for your family, and it also financially benefits our food service program and school district.

We ask parents to continue to communicate with Health and Safety Coordinator Michelle MacPherson (mmacpher@lewalt.k12.mn.us or 507-522-3259) if a student or a student's family member tests positive for COVID-19. This information is very important even during this extended period of distant learning.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we continue to strive to protect the health and safety of our students and staff while also providing the best education we can. Again, I apologize for this change from Friday's announcement and I truly regret if this change causes any additional stress to an already challenging situation for students and families. Feel free to contact me at 507-522-3401 or gcarman@lewalt.k12.mn.us.