



Superintendent / HS Principal
Jamie Goebel
jgoebel@lyle.k12.mn.us

Lyle Public School
700 2nd Street • Lyle, MN 55953-6744
Phone: 507-325-2201 • Fax: 507-325-4611
www.lyle.k12.mn.us

K-8 Principal / DAC
Cori McRae
cmcrae@lyle.k12.mn.us

August 20, 2021

Lyle Families:

We look forward to the start of the 2021-2022 school year where we once again will fill our buses, hallways, and classrooms with the voices and laughter of our students and staff. Our goal is to provide as normal a school year as we possibly can. We are sending this letter to inform families of a few important aspects as we soon begin the 2021-2022 school year.

Change in our Calendar

Earlier this week, the Lyle School Board approved our recommendation to end our school day every Wednesday at 2:00pm instead of the normal 3:00pm. This will begin on September 8th. This early release will provide our staff time for training and staff development throughout the school year.

All of our transportation routes will remain the same. For those students participating in activities, we will provide a space and supervision in the building while waiting for their practice to begin or for the shuttle bus to Pacelli. This will be a great opportunity to complete schoolwork during this time.

E-Learning Days

Earlier this week, the Lyle School Board also approved a resolution adopting an alternative learning day in the event of a school closure, specifically due to inclement weather. This alternative learning day will be called an "E-Learning Day." The rationale for E-Learning days is to maintain the educational process for all Lyle students with the least amount of disruption to our schedule and the continuity of skills for each classroom.

Per state statute, E-Learning can be used up to five days during the school year and will be counted as instructional days. Adopting the plan will either eliminate or decrease the need for make-up days at the end of the school year. Families will be notified via our Infinite Campus Alert System (Parent Portal), the district website, and Facebook pages, as well as other designated broadcasting entities that the closure of school will be an "E-Learning Day."

More details on how an E-Learning will look will be shared later in the school year.

More details on back...

Health and Safety Measures for the Start of the School year.

The School Board approved the following measures for the start of the school year. Let me be upfront that any of these measures may need to change with little to no notice. We understand these measures may not be agreed upon by all families. We ask for your support, understanding, and patience as we begin our school year.

1. All staff, students, and visitors within Independent School District – 497, regardless of vaccination status, are recommended to follow the strategies of physical distancing, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and disinfection, contact tracing, screening testing, and staying home when sick as defined in the [CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#).
2. All staff, students, and visitors within Independent School District – 497 are strongly encouraged to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status. Families can choose for their children to wear masks/face shields during the school day if desired. Mask-Shaming will not be tolerated and should be communicated to the school office.
3. Anyone riding on school buses and vans will be required to wear masks, as required by the CDC.
4. Staff will make every attempt to maintain a distance of 3 feet inside of the building during the school day.
5. All staff of Independent School District – 497 should be vaccinated, unless said person cannot be vaccinated for other reasons.
6. We again are expecting all parents and guardians to screen their child(ren) before sending them to school. If they do not feel well and/or are displaying any symptoms, please keep them home and notify the school of their absence. If a student comes to school and has symptoms, they will be evaluated by our nurse, provided a mask to wear, and families will be notified to pick them up. Further instruction will be provided by school personnel at that time.
7. Any individuals who test positive for COVID-19 will be required to stay home for 10 days and until all symptoms are no longer present. Their attendance will be marked ill. We encourage students to complete their work as they are able on the appropriate platform (via Schoology, Google Classroom, or Seesaw.)
8. Parents/Guardians of students who are considered close contacts of a positive COVID-19 case will be notified by school personnel and provided with options:
 - a. One option will be keeping their child(ren) home for 10 days. If this choice of quarantine is selected, they will be expected to complete their daily work. If a quarantined student later tests positive, we will mark their attendance appropriately and encourage them to complete work as able.
 - b. The other option families may choose is to send their child(ren) back to school, but those students will be required to wear a mask during the 10 days at school. They will be closely monitored by school personnel during this time.
9. Those who can show documentation of being fully vaccinated or have had COVID-19 in the past 90 days will not be required to follow the details in #8 as long as they do not have symptoms.
10. Regularly scheduled visitors who provide educational and essential services will be permitted in the school building. They will be expected to follow all health and safety guidelines of the district. Non-school personnel will not be permitted in the building.
11. Families will not have the option to elect Distance Learning as a form of education during the school year.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Jamie Goebel
Superintendent/High School Principal/Transportation Director
Lyle Public School
507.325.2201