

November 20, 2020

Dear Line Mountain School District Families:

In an abundance of caution, the Line Mountain School District will proactively go to a 100% Virtual Learning Model beginning **Tuesday, December 1, through Friday, December 4**. Although our position has been and continues to be that our students are safer to be in school, several variables have led to this decision.

The rise in positive cases locally and in our school community alone is not the full impetus in this decision. Additionally taking into consideration the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, and the Governor's newly released travel restrictions have added to the consideration "list." By shifting to a district wide 100% Virtual Learning Model we as district will be able re-evaluate our situation and the appropriate instructional model during this time.

The district believes it would be fool hearted not to expect families to give thanks together and wishes everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving. Instead we ask that everyone continues doing their part in keeping the school community safe. By shifting to a district wide 100% Virtual Learning Model for this week the district will be able re-evaluate our situation and even more importantly allow a little extra time for potential covid-19 contacts to come to light, prior to returning to school and increasing our number of students requiring quarantine.

Please, if you think there was any chance of exposure to Covid-19, keep your children home until appropriate contact tracing is completed. We will walk families through the Department of Health's protocols and resources, and most importantly when in doubt encourage families to contact their doctor.

These resources used by the district while conducting contact tracing can be found at the following links <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/HAN/2020-PAHAN-533-10-26-ADV%20-%20Additiona.pdf> and <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Guidance/Contact-Tracing-FAQ.aspx>

More information is forthcoming regarding free meal distribution, deployment of technology devices for elementary students, connectivity options for families, and special education services.

Although we believe that in-person instruction is best for our students, meaningful instruction will continue to occur virtually with our amazing teachers and staff. Teachers will be teaching from their classrooms live all day and providing rich and challenging learning experiences for our students. Our goal is to get our students back to in-person instruction on Monday, December 7, 2020. In the meantime, we will continue to evaluate the status of COVID-19 in our community on a daily basis and make our decisions accordingly. Please know that we certainly understand the challenges that temporarily switching to a 100% Virtual Learning Model causes for parents and families. However, we believe that this decision is proactive in nature and keeps in mind the needs and concerns of all families. Thank you again for your patience, cooperation, and trust as we navigate this unprecedented time. I hope you all have an enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday. Stay safe.

Sincerely,
David M. Campbell, Superintendent