District Office



501 West Sickels Street St. Johns, MI 48879 Telephone: 989.227.4050

Fax: 989.227.4099 www.sjredwings.org

November 1, 2020

Dear SJPS Parents and Guardians,

Today, the 7-day average of the percent of positive test cases in Clinton County reached 8.2%. Last week, the numbers continued to rise, which makes the demand on the health department extremely heavy at this time and affects the turnaround time of contact tracing. Throughout this school year, we have worked to keep our schools open for our community.

However, in an effort to slow the spread and keep our students, staff, and families safe, we need to move all students to a remote learning platform starting on Tuesday, November 3 through November 13, 2020. Adventure Club will be closed as well, however, Little Wings will remain open at this time. Currently, we are planning on all school buildings to reopen on Monday, November 16th. We will continue to monitor the numbers and consult with the health department to inform our decisions.

Elementary students in attendance on Monday, November 2 will be sent home with breakfast and lunch for Tuesday. Free meals may be picked up by any family at the High School Athletic Entrance on Monday and Wednesday each week between 8:00 and 9:30 am.

We also continue to request that everyone in our community follow safety protocols to help keep everyone healthy and to allow us to reopen our schools safely. If someone in your household is sick, please do not send your child to school on Monday, November 2.

- Watch for COVID-19 illness, which are fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.
 - It is recommended you get tested for COVID-19 if you do get symptoms. You can call 2-1-1 or go to <u>www.michigan.gov/coronavirustest</u> for testing locations.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially before eating, after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
 - If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Stay home if you are sick.
- Avoid gathering in groups, stay at least 2 arms' length (about 6 feet) apart from others.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth cover when around others.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or the inside of your elbow when you cough or sneeze.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are touched often at least once a day.

We apologize for the inconvenience this decision brings but feel this is a necessary step. We appreciate your patience and support as we work through these challenging times.

Sincerely,.

Mark Palmer, Superintendent