



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SHIOCTON

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Nichole J. Schweitzer
District Administrator
Extension 761

Nicholas M. Ortlieb
Grades 7-12 Principal
Extension 751

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Grades PK-6 Principal
Extension 747

Kelly J. Thiel
Special Education Director
Extension 773

October 13, 2020

Dear Parents and Family Members,

Last week, we experienced our first need to close a classroom based on the number of persons that were known to be close contacts of a positive case. The duration of our closure will be for a full 14 days from the date of notification. While our protocol would have called for us to close and quarantine for 14 days as of the last known contact with the positive case, the fact that this was a classroom of littles. We know that littles like to share (without washing items between use), and they like to be in each other's spaces (and very much within 6 feet of each other) all day long. As a result, we chose to exercise great caution and start the 14 day quarantine from the last day that the littles were with each other given that they had all been with the positive case while all together. We felt this was the best way to ensure the health and safety of students and staff when seeking to have them return to the building, as was confirmed by the Outagamie Public Health Department. I share this with all of you so that you can see how protocol is used to determine the baseline action but also how we exercise our understanding of the situation when making the final determination as to how best to keep our students and staff as healthy and as safe as possible.

In news not related to COVID

School Photos coming soon. In fact, we learned yesterday that the photos should be in sometime today. Watch for your child's photos to come home in backpacks and such this week. Also, a reminder that picture retakes have been rescheduled to November 10th.

Parent/Teacher Conferences. Watch for information from you building principal and/or child's teacher regarding the scheduling of your Parent/Teacher meeting that will be held by way of ZOOM or telephone. Conferences are scheduled for October 21 and 22 from 4:15 – 8:00PM both evenings. (October 23 is a No School Day for students.)

Parents of Seniors: Financial Aid. In past years, we have had Fox Valley Tech representatives on campus one of the Parent/Teacher Conference evenings to speak on financial aid and how to fill out the FAFSA. This year, FVTC has put together a virtual presentation: https://cdnapisek.kaltura.com/index.php/extwidget/preview/partner_id/2202651/uiconf_id/41520721/entry_id/1_2becrb5h/embed/dynamic.

As always, if you need any assistance, contact Mrs. Sandee Cornell at scornell@shiocton.k12.wi.us or x711.

Free Breakfast and Lunches for all. As noted in a separate letter last week and updated on October 8, the District has received approval from the USDA to participate in the extended Seamless Summer Option. This program provides free breakfast and lunch to all students enrolled in the school district, Grades PK – 12, as well as the SCCC students through December 31 or earlier if funding is depleted. Please see the letter for more details at: <https://www.shiocton.k12.wi.us/district/free%20meals%20SSO%20updated%20100820.pdf>

NOTE: there is some information most recently released that would indicate the potential for an extension of this program to possibly the end of June 2021. We are looking into this and will share additional information as applicable.

Red Ribbon Week. October 26 – 30 is Red Ribbon Week, a time where we discuss with students about the prevention of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse, as well as violence prevention. A big thank you to Mrs. Kern and Mrs. Cornell for their continued efforts to build awareness within our youth in developmentally appropriate ways.

"Where Excellence is Expected"

The Shiocton School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.



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ZOOMing – Who Can See What. As students and staff are quarantined, their ability to remain connected to the learning and instruction continues by way of ZOOM. As students connect digitally to their classroom and participate in the planned learning activities, there is a need for students to work with peers via the digital connection from their remote location, such as home. As a result, others (e.g. the parents of other students) may have access to your child's image and work product. All student information is confidential; the instruction shall not be recorded nor shared outside of the classroom. Just as with any classrooms, periodically there may be other adults or students present for a variety of reasons. As with in-person visitors, *we expect families to respect the privacy of the other students participating in the learning.*

Please maintain a learning environment free of distractions (pets, music, television, etc) and void of other household members who are not providing direct support to the student for his/her learning. While the school district has reasonable assurances related to the security of the digital/virtual platform for instructional delivery, it cannot guarantee the security of all telephonic, digital, or virtual communication utilized in the educational services delivery. If you have a concern with the proposed method of delivering services, please contact your child's principal.

We are working our way through Week 7 and remain thankful that all of you are supporting your child's participation in our efforts to keep students and staff as healthy and safe as possible.

Yours in Education,

Nichole J. Schweitzer
District Administrator

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