

CoronaVirus – How it Relates to LaMoure School

As everyone is fully aware, the COVID-19 virus has hit North Dakota these past few days. With Governor Bergum calling for all schools to be shut down for the week of March 16-20 this past Sunday, it has left schools scrambling Sunday night and into Monday morning. Please read through these important announcements for your child, the parents, patrons, and staff at LaMoure School and how it affects you at the current time and into the future. The last few days, information and procedures have changed drastically. At the time of this writing, this is the best information we currently have. The information that has been given to the schools has continually changed or update. The policy and procedures given today, may change at any given notice from the updates schools receive.

Communication – The LaMoure School will continually update its Facebook page and website on pending and new information and how it relates with the school functioning. Please refer to this site for information and some very helpful links. You can also call the school for needed information at 883-5396.

The Virus – The LaMoure School is relying on LaMoure County Health and the state department of health on the symptom and treatments on this. The school does not have the expertise on this compared to our health professionals we rely on. We gather this information from them and then distribute this information to our students and patrons of the district. We ask that student use good

Planning for Student Return – The LaMoure School is now preparing a strategic plan in two ways. The first planning document the school is constructing this week is the procedures the school will utilize when the students return to school. Whether the students return on March 23rd, April 10th, or any date in the future, the LaMoure School is constructing a plan for the procedures for the students to follow to be safe and the process to minimize the potential for contracting any virus to the students. This plan will be shared with the public when finalized in the coming days.

Planning for Students When Absent – The LaMoure School is also preparing a strategic plan for if the students are absent for a long period of time past March 20th. If there is a period of time where the students are required to be gone longer than this week, the staff is preparing for alternative learning during that period of time. This where each staff member will devise a strategy for educational learning will take place. It is our hope that this plan will be in place by the end of the week into how this will occur and not what they will be learning. This may take the form of multiple avenues on this. This is a time for our staff and students will use our innovative strategies to overcome this obstacle before us. More information will follow to the public on this also. We are preparing for all avenues, whether short term or long term for the term of school not officially being in session at the school.

Food Service – We are currently working with our food service to provide meals to our students during the time school is not in session during the week. We will not be able to provide this service during the week of March 16th – 20th, but plan on implementing a food service program to our students if school is not in session past March 20th. If no, school we would start this service on Monday, March 23rd. Please follow the Facebook page and the LaMoure School website for updates on this. A final plan on how this will be carried out will be distributed by the end of this week.

School Board & Public Meeting – The LaMoure School board will meet on Thursday, March 19th at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the plans of the school and what is next in store for the staff, students, and patrons of LaMoure. The meeting will be televised on Facebook Live so patrons can see the discussion and be given more information without having to physically attend the meeting.

Students Getting Supplies From School – If there is an extended absence from school for the students, we want the students to be prepared for possible electronic learning or distance learning that may need to take place. Students may need to get classroom books, chrome books, iPad's, or other needed supplies. The parents and students may also need some guidance from their classroom teacher on some items they may need to share. We are asking that students along with their parents come to the school at the following times to get these items from the school. The school will be open and teaching staff available at these times this week.

Thursday, March 19th from 2:00 p.m. till 6:00 p.m.

Friday, March 20th, from 9:00 a.m. till 12:00 p.m.

We ask that parents and student come in at this time and be conscious of time spent in the classroom as other students and parents will also be coming. Reminder this is to prepare if there is an extended procedure where school is called off. A plan is being made to provide an educational opportunity for our students.

Extra Activities – At this time there is no extra curricular activities. This will be evaluated on a weekly basis as more information comes from the department of health and if school is in session.

Fitness Center – At this time we are having the Fitness Center open to the public. It is being cleaned and sterilized twice a day. We are refraining from having large groups go to the fitness center at the same time. We will keep it open, but we need to have all users utilize the cleaning and wipes that are provided. If not proper procedure is followed, the opening of the fitness center will have to be evaluated.

School Hours – We plan on having somebody at the school during the course of the day to answer questions and phone calls from patrons during the time of the school shutdown. We do

have the plan of having the staff at the school this week for parts of the day during the week. The Thursday and Friday schedule for staff is posted above. Please contact the school if necessary.

Contact with Parents – By the time you read this, you may have been contacted by the school already for some key information that we may need. If you have not been contacted, please call the school at 883-5397.

Stay Healthy – We remind everyone to stay healthy by drinking plenty of water, rest and stay active. People are to keep their social distances from each other. Continue to practice healthy habits such as washing your hands with soap and minimize touching of the face. Together we can beat this!

Conclusion - In this time of uncertainty, we rise to the occasion and show what character we are made of. The LaMoure School and staff will rise to the occasion to provide the students the best education possible. We have great students, great staff, and great supporters of the school system. We will strive to get through this and become better people because of this. It was approximately 9 years ago when the school went through a crisis with the fire at the LaMoure School. The students were displaced for a little over two months during that crisis. When reflecting on that, my fondest memory of that event is when the staff and students pulled together as one, to get the school up and running within 2 days of the fire in a completely different location which became known as the Verona Site. After that event was over with that inconvenience, we can reflect on how people pulled together for the common purpose and goal. They made the best of the situation that they were dealt and made it a life-long memory for those staff and students. We can make this event similar!

Yours in Education,
Mitch Carlson / Superintendent