

LaMoure School Update

Meals – The LaMoure School started the free meal program to all ages 1-18 on Monday, March 23rd. If you are not on the delivery list to receive a free breakfast and lunch daily, please contact the school at 883-5397 or e-mail the following at meals@lamoureshschool.com. Since the last communication, we are attempting to add more stops to deliver meals. Adrian, Harmsen's Greenhouse, 5 miles north of Verona (intersection of Hi-way 1 and Hi-Way 27), Intersection of Hi-way 34 and Hi-Way 60. Please refer to previous correspondence on the previous drop off spots.

E- learning – The LaMoure School started on Monday, March 23rd with the process of Electronic Learning. This will be different for each class and students depending on the needs of that class and individual. Google hangouts, Zoom, Facetime, See-Saw, Office 365, and various other modes of electronic communication will be given to the students of LaMoure School. The rolling out of this endeavor may have some early snags, but it is the anticipation that we will work through this.

Student Expectations – Students are expected to carry out their regular classroom expectations while learning from a distance. When a classroom teacher has a scheduled school assignment or group activity via digital device, it is expected that the students attend those meetings electronically and participate according to the expectations set forth by the instructor. Attendance and participation is recorded by the staff member for the distance learning setting.

Electronic Devices – The LaMoure School will work with various families so each student that needs a personal device will have a personal device for learning. From a Chromebook, iPad, cell phones, laptops, and other various devices, the students will have a mode to access this instructional delivery. For those that do not currently have Internet access, we have been working with Dickey Rural Networks to provide this much needed mode of communication.

Essential Personnel in School Building– At the current time, the LaMoure School is allowing only people who are considered essential personnel to enter the school building. Essential personnel are defined by what the LaMoure Public School is deemed to deliver e-instruction and to prepare for when students return to the building in the future. At this time no students are to receive instruction in the building until more guidance is given from the Department of Health and the Governor's office.

Extra-Curricular Activities – We have received a few questions on spring activities with spring sports, prom, field trips, and other various activities. This will be re-evaluated on a weekly basis. This will depend on how long the school is in the procedure of e-learning and keeping the social distance guidelines being implemented throughout the state. As of this writing, students are to not participate in any captain's practice or gathering for activities.

Q & A - (Questions and Answers frequently asked). If there are questions you may have, please contact the school. 701-883-5397.

Q – I heard each school has to provide a plan for instruction by Friday the 27th, why?

A – If schools are to be setup for instructional learning electronically or digitally, it must be pre-approved by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and the Governors office. At the time of this writing, no schools that we are aware of have been approved for e-learning. The LaMoure School and all other schools must submit a plan by this Friday and that plan has to be approved by April 1st. If approved, a school can legally give an instructional day by e-learning.

Q – The Governor waived days, what does waive days mean?

A - This means the instructional hours will not have to be made up if not in compliance with North Dakota Century code standards. If the guidelines for teaching, do not fall into the scope of what is legally allowed by Century Code standards, the Governor can waive those hours or days if the Governor deems appropriate. During this COVID-19 scenario, the Governor deemed it appropriate to help slow down the spread of the virus.

Q – Does that mean everything is waived which include contracts, school work etc....

A – No. Students and staff are still under an obligation to fulfill their duties as a worker and/or student. It may mean a person will work under different circumstances and students may learn in a different setting, but a Governor’s waiver does not dismiss a person’s duties during the school year or the days that an “instructional” waiver has been granted.

Q – The Governor waived days until March 31st, why are we going to school electronically then?

A – The executive order did waive the days of instruction that are supposed to count toward the minimum contact hours with students. The main reason for this is because by Century Code of North Dakota, this week of instruction cannot be legally counted as days or hours of instruction until approved by DPI and the governor’s office described above. A school can elect to roll out their e-learning at any date which includes an April 1st start, but can also implement the e-learning sooner if the school district is ready.

Q – Why are we starting instruction on Monday, the 23rd?

A – The staff at LaMoure School worked hard to set up a system for each class and student during the week of march 16-20. Along with anything “new”, there will be some kinks down the road. The LaMoure School also has the belief that if we have the capabilities to educate, we will educate during this time. A well-rounded education with different teaching and learning styles are important for the students to grow as individuals. We hope to make this the best opportunity for our students to learn from this experience.