



Dr. Stu Cameron
Superintendent

IMLAY CITY SCHOOLS
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Dear Spartan Families:

You may see that some school districts in counties to the west and south of Lapeer County are electing to shift – or are considering a shift to fully online instruction. Today I met with the Lapeer Health Department and County Superintendents to discuss the state of the county as it relates to COVID-19 and to ask questions and solicit information about school programming. As you know, Imlay City has dedicated itself to offering face-to-face instruction this year, and remains dedicated to doing so. This has not changed.

That being said we need to monitor the conditions around us. This is what I heard today:

COVID-19 cases are on the rise locally. In just the last reporting period for the county, a little over 200 positive cases have been identified. It appears that community spread is increasing. As a result, it's more important than ever to be careful about safety measures such as social distancing and taking steps to make sure that you and your family are safeguarded as much as possible.

The good news is that **coronavirus is not spreading within school walls here in our county**. In fact, here at Imlay City Schools with one possible exception, every positive or probable case we've investigated has come to us through an exposure that occurred outside of our school walls.

That means our safety protocols: masking, hand hygiene, cohorting elementary students, cleaning, and social distancing when possible – are working.

The need to quarantine large numbers of close contacts, however, continues to be very disruptive to the education of those quarantined, to our teachers, and our programs.

As you're aware, there have been some cases here among students and school staff. Here are some updated statistics from the Imlay City Schools. To date:

- The district has quarantined 335 individuals since the start of school
- There have been 10 positive cases among students and/or staff
- There have been 6 probable cases among students/staff

In each instance, as soon as we're notified, we immediately begin contact tracing and communication. As a result of these investigations, the average number of quarantined students and staff is approximately 24 people per positive case.

We're dedicated to offering a full program of face-to-face instruction. We want to continue to do so.



Imlay City High School has been selected as one of America's Best High Schools in the United States and awarded a Bronze medal by *U.S. News & World Report*, the nation's leading source of news analysis and service journalism. Imlay City High School is a three-time recipient of the award, having been named one of America's Best in 2007, 2013, and again in 2018.

To be able to continue our face-to-face programming will be dependent on the prevalence of COVID-19 cases associated with the schools. Since we know that student to student spread and adult to student spread has not been an issue in the schools to date, we need your help at home and in the community.

First and foremost, if you have a child that is symptomatic according to our parent screening tool – if there is the presence of COVID-like symptoms in your child, please keep your child home. Sending a symptomatic student to school that eventually tests positive could result in 20, 30, 50 or more students needing to be quarantined from school and missing out on their face-to-face instruction.

Similarly, if you or a family member become sick with COVID-like symptoms – especially sick enough that you are considering being tested for COVID, please keep your non-symptomatic children home until you are tested or go 24 hours with no symptoms.

We would rather have one student miss 1 or 2 days of instruction out of precaution, than 25 or 30 students miss two weeks of school because someone who did not know he/she infectious was sent to school. Your child's principal will absolutely work with you regarding excused absences.

Truly, the entire school community can be of help. The less community spread we experience, the higher the probability we can remain in a face-to-face format. So, taking steps to limit the transmission of COVID-19, and encouraging others in the community to take the same steps will be of great help.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for your many efforts to help keep our schools safe and open for face-to-face learning. Your willingness to follow our safety guidelines, your thoughtfulness, and your quick and frequent communication with the district have made all the difference this year.

Thank you all! Be well, and GO SPARTANS!

Sincerely,



Dr. Stu Cameron
Superintendent