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November 17, 2020

Dear NBCA Families,

As you may have seen last night, Governor Whitmer announced the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services order to protect workers, and slow the impact that COVID-19 is having on our community. Although we do not have any reported positive cases at NBCA, we are unable to maintain the level of staffing needed at the school due to the adverse impact of COVID-19 at this time.

We are announcing that **the last day for in-person instruction will be Thursday, November 19 through January 11**. Our first 100% virtual learning day will begin Friday, November 20 for students in grades TK-8 (GSRP will continue with in-person learning and current program).

Virtual school is not optional. All students MUST attend. Attendance will be taken daily and we will follow Kent ISD Truancy requirements.

Here is the plan:

Tuesday, November 17 – normal day for in-person. Personal belongings will be sent home with students.

Wednesday, November 18 and Thursday, November 19 – Parents may choose virtual learning instead of in-person learning if not comfortable sending child(ren) to school (must do one or the other or will be counted as absent). If you choose virtual learning, please let your child's teacher know on Tuesday so all personal belongings and learning resources can be sent home on Tuesday.

Friday, November 20 – All students will be required to log in to Canvas and complete a minimum of one assignment to be counted as present. Teachers will be offering office hours from 8:30am-3:00pm and will be contacting every parent of an in-person student by phone to answer any questions. Parents of virtual students will be able to come into the school to pick up learning materials for the next month from 11-3.

January 4 - Virtual learning resumes

Week of January 4-8 – Re-evaluation of returning to school in-person

January 11, 2021 – Tentative return date for in-person instruction

Though the building is closed, we will continue to operate virtually with our online classrooms. Please see the attached document that provides details on virtual learning, attendance, contacts, Child Care, Food Service program, and GSRP. [Attach New Branches Virtual Academy Parent Information Packet here]

Our office will be staffed in the upcoming weeks should you have questions, so please feel free to call 616-243-6221. Please leave a voicemail if after hours and we will contact you the next day.

The safety of our school family is so important to us. We will continue to move forward under the guidance of the Kent County Health Department.

Thank you,

Terry Larkin
Principal

