

JESUP COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



531 Prospect Street
PO Box 287
Jesup, IA 50648
Tel: (319)827-1700
Fax: (319)827-3905



Nathan Marting
Superintendent
nmarting@jesup.k12.ia.us

Paul Rea
High School Principal
prea@jesup.k12.ia.us

Lisa Loecher
Middle School Principal
lloecher@jesup.k12.ia.us

Brian Pottebaum
Elementary Principal
bpottebaum@jesup.k12.ia.us

January 22, 2021

Dear Jesup Community School Parents and Families,

In addition to our regular Friday updates on COVID-related matters, I have included some additional information as well in this week's update.

As of today, we currently have **25** individuals who are in quarantine. **Five or less** of these individuals have tested positive with all on quarantine due to positive or potential positive exposures or exhibiting symptoms. **None** of these individuals on quarantine can be traced back to school exposure. Please continue to do your part in helping each other stay safe and allow us to remain in person for teaching, learning, and activities. The county 14-day positivity rates are currently **9%** for Buchanan County and **10%** for Black Hawk County. This data changes frequently and can be found at <https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/>.

Racial Incidents

I shared a post on Facebook yesterday in response to some recent events involving racial comments or intolerance. As a district, we are committed to making sure ALL of our students always feel safe and welcomed in our schools. We do not tolerate any type of language or behavior that would make another student feel uncomfortable or unsafe. While the overwhelming majority of our students always exhibit positive and welcoming behaviors, we have seen an increase in some language and behaviors that do not align with our standards and expectations. We are increasing our conversations with students and staff around these topics to raise awareness of these issues. Additionally, administratively we are reviewing our policies and procedures as well as reaching out to other school districts to ensure our policies and procedures best serve ALL of our students. We have added the Student Harassment Complaint Form on our district website under Quick Links for easier access if there is an incident that should be reported. <https://www.jesup.k12.ia.us/district/student-harassment-complaint-form.aspx>

We ask for your continued support on this matter and encourage you to talk with your children about the importance of always conducting themselves in a kind, accepting, and respectful manner.

Community Rec Opportunities for Adults

I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of a number of opportunities our Community Rec program is providing for the general public. On Wednesday and Sunday evenings from 6:30-7:30, we have opened the school for members of the public to walk indoors. We ask that you bring an extra pair of shoes and enter through the main activity entrance on the south side of the school.

We also offer open volleyball on Sunday evenings in the south gym at 6:30 p.m. Additionally, we have opened our JAC fitness facility for open lifting on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10-11 a.m. We also are holding an open “Murph” workout on Saturday mornings from 8-9 a.m. for those looking for a structured workout. Any and all fitness levels and backgrounds are welcome to take advantage of any of these opportunities. Please contact Brock Sabers, Community Rec Director, at bsabers@jesup.k12.ia.us with any questions.

Online Community Forums

We will continue to offer our online opportunity for the public to hear directly from the district on current updates on district happenings. These meetings will not only be an opportunity to provide you with updates from the district but also for you to provide us with feedback or questions that you may have as parents. Online forums will be held each Wednesday at 6 p.m. and can be accessed by logging in or calling in by following the information below:

Login at:

<https://meet.google.com/ehp-pbqj-mvi?hs=122&authuser=0>

or call in at:

1 708-762-8768

PIN: 909 668 477#

We appreciate your continued support of the school district and your efforts in keeping everyone safe. If at any time you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child’s building principal. Stay J-Hawk Safe and J-Hawk Strong!

Thank you and take care,

Nathan