



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEILLSVILLE

Dear Middle Schoolers & Families,

August 14, 2020

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know how excited I am to have you/your child as a student in the Middle School for the 2020-21 school year! I know this is a non-traditional start to the school year as we know it, but that doesn't take away the excitement of another year with new milestones. As you most likely already know, we have students in 6th grade coming in person Monday-Thursday and 7th & 8th graders coming in person in two cohorts, either Cohort A (Monday & Wednesday, with the exception of the first two weeks where they will come in person Wednesday & Friday as we will not have school on Monday either of the first two weeks) or Cohort B (Tuesday & Thursday). Friday during the month of September will be a remote learning day for all students district-wide. Plus all families have the option of Plan C which is 100% remote learning if that fits their family's needs better. Middle school teachers will be utilizing Google as their common teaching and learning platform. Therefore, enclosed in this packet you will find a *Student Guide to Google Classroom* as well as a *Parent's Guide to Google Classroom*. If your home has limited or no internet access, please request paper copies of remote learning assignments. Also, during the month of September, we will not be having our second Wednesday late start to be able to offer a full day of learning for students in our Wednesday cohorts. This year is a fluid situation based on COVID activity and therefore, the School Board will be revisiting the school plan and school calendar on a monthly basis. In lieu of our traditional Open House I have included welcome letters from each of your/your child's teachers so that you could "meet" them. We will also be posting on our website and social media pages a rolling presentation that tells a little bit about each staff member in the middle school. To limit the possible exposure to illness for our students and staff, we are taking precautions at school such as reduced numbers in classes, hand sanitizing, and additional disinfecting. In addition, students will not be utilizing lockers, but instead carrying backpacks. I would highly recommend that you/your student bring a refillable water bottle with them as we will not be able to utilize the water fountains, but will be able to use the water filling stations. Furthermore, we will be limiting people in the school building that are not students or staff to reduce possible exposures that can happen. Included in this mailing you will find enclosed a letter indicating your/your student's homeroom teacher (6th grade) or cohort assignment (7th or 8th grade). Please feel free to reach out to me either through email at kpoeschel@neillsville.k12.wi.us or phone my direct office line at 715-743-8806.

Respectfully,

Kory A. Poeschel
Middle School Principal and Director of Curriculum & Instruction
School District of Neillsville

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