

# Superintendent Updates

April 23, 2021



**Raphael Rittenhouse**  
Superintendent

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Dear Gull Lake Families and School Community,

I want to update each building level on our current status and mode of instruction as we continue to prioritize safe in-person learning opportunities. **Y5 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade** students are continuing their current 5-day in-person learning. Elementary students already using remote virtual learning options are not impacted and will continue with their current mode of instruction.

The recent uptick in positive COVID-19 cases grades 6-12 is being closely tracked and so far, positive cases continue to be a result of exposure outside the school setting. However, with a more contagious variant becoming the dominant strain among younger populations, we have been doing far more contact tracing and quarantining based on MDHHS standards and orders. It is critical that we preserve the integrity of our contact tracing protocols so that our Middle School and High School do not become locations that contribute to the spread of COVID-19.

**Gull Lake Middle School** will be transitioning ***Wednesdays only*** to *remote synchronous instruction* for the rest of the year so that contact tracing can be conducted with fidelity. *In-person learning* for all students will take place on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday as usual. This allows the team to deliver timely results and communications to students and families. With a high number of students in quarantine, staff will be able to meet with students virtually in real time on Wednesdays in order to help them stay organized and caught up with their work. Dr. Maring is communicating specifics to GLMS families.

**Gull Lake High School** students will be returning to a recommended schedule of 4-day in person learning on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday with remote virtual instruction staying in place for Wednesdays. Mr. Eastman will confirm the details. Many new vaccine clinics have been established for our students aged 16+ and Nurse Megan continues to post updates so that students and families can take full advantage of this option!

Have a wonderful weekend!

Be safe, be well,

Raphael Rittenhouse/Superintendent

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Raphael Rittenhouse". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gull Lake Community Schools