



SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



November 30, 2020

It was so nice to have a somewhat regular day at Skyline today. To be honest, this is about as regular as I have experienced. I do not know what it would be like with all of our students coming to live classes and teachers only providing in-person instruction. I am hopeful that one day we will get back to that kind of normal or regular. Nonetheless, it was great to see students in the hallway and their masked faces in classrooms. I hope that students enjoyed their day and feel like they can get back into a normal rhythm over the next few weeks.

The state is having schools do something different with Winter Sports and Activities. All participants in any extra-curricular activities will be required to test for COVID-19 every two weeks. Academic tutoring that happens after school is not considered extra-curricular and is exempt from the testing requirement. All sports, performing arts, and debate will be testing every other week. This testing is replacing the need to quarantine a team if they have three or more athletes who test positive. The general testing will ensure we can isolate the positive cases and keep the activity going safely. Also, the guidelines are requiring that these extra-curricular events be drastically limited in terms of spectators. Only parents will be allowed to attend the contests and concerts in person. We will stream all home events so families, friends, and students can watch from a distance.

I was asked this weekend what it was like to be a principal again. I lamented that I spend way too much time worrying about mitigating the spread of COVID-19. I also said how much I wish we spent all that time focusing on the academic achievement of the students. I want you all to know, I still spend the majority of my time focused on student academic success. We are working on plans to better support students who are struggling academically. Teachers are hopeful that as we work with families in support of students that together we can help everyone through these difficulties. Many students continue to achieve despite the challenges they face, I hope it is not at too large a strain. I am hopeful that we can create a more constant, normal rhythm of academic growth amidst all of the disruptions and obstacles.

Sincerely,
Mitch Nerdin, Principal