



NEWCOMB CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

December 2021

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“It’s not what’s under the Christmas tree that matters, it’s who’s around it.”~ Charlie Brown

A message from Superintendent Chris Fisher

And so it begins...Black Friday shopping, Cyber Monday deals, cookie baking, tree trimming, gift wrapping and holiday planning. Before we know it, we will be ringing in the season and heading out for the holiday break. The instructional days between Thanksgiving and Christmas traditionally move so quickly. Keeping the focus on academics is a challenge with the excitement of things to come and the overwhelming feelings of not having enough time to do all that we think needs to be done.

I think Charlie Brown said it best, “It’s not what’s under the Christmas tree that matters, it’s who’s around it.” With all of the hustle and bustle, I hope that everyone has an opportunity to take time out to appreciate who is around your Christmas tree. Making memories with family and friends is a gift that can last a lifetime and far surpasses anything contained in a box and gussied up with a bow.

From our household to yours, have a restful and memorable holiday this year!

Cont'd on page 2



NO SCHOOL

Dec. 23rd – Jan. 1st
(Holiday Recess)



A Three Point Shot for Safety:

The winter sports season is underway and NCS' modified and varsity teams have been hard at work practicing. With the first game just around the corner, the Safety Committee and Board of Education have been working to devise safety protocols. Considering the high level of COVID-19 community transmission in Essex county, the district's priority remains to preserve in-person learning and maintain health and wellness for all. The Essex County Department of Health has informed schools that if there is a positive COVID-19 case, all athletes of both teams would need to be quarantined. Due to a careful approach and safety protocols in place, NCS has been fortunate to have in-person learning for all students since the beginning of the pandemic. The district recognizes that participation in sports is important for students so the following mitigation strategies are set to be implemented.

- Per New York State's guidance, all spectators will be required to bring a mask and wear a mask at all times in the school building.**
- Per New York State's guidance, all athletes will be required to wear a mask at all times in the school building.**
- NCS will limit restroom accessibility to designated areas.**
- Spectators will be encouraged to maintain social distancing between family cohorts.**
- NCS will not offer concessions during games.**
- Food and beverages will not be allowed in the gymnasium.**
- Fresh air exchange will be provided in the gymnasium.**
- Spectator entrance will be at the front of the school building along 28N.**
- Spectators will not be permitted to move about the building and will be restricted to the gymnasium and the restrooms in the atrium.**

Please understand that the above protocols are subject to change depending on updated information from Section VII and/or our partners at the Essex County Department of Health.



Cell Phones in the Classroom...Benefits and Barriers to Learning:

NCS' Board of Education recognizes that there are times when students may need to access their personal devices for educational purposes. These instances are granted at the discretion of classroom teachers and administrators and can prove beneficial for teaching and learning. Unless used for educational purposes, cell phones can also pose additional barriers to learning as well. Temptations to text or check incoming messages, upticks in cyberbullying, ringtones disrupting classes, devices being damaged or lost, internet sites that are not run through the district's filter and could leave children vulnerable, and increases in distractibility from academics are a few of those barriers.

To ensure the integrity of teaching and learning and to protect students to the extent possible, the district has a policy in place for personal electronic devices. All electronic devices are prohibited from the time students arrive at school until the end of the regular school day, unless permission is granted.

If you need to reach your child, we ask that you please refrain from texting or calling them and phone the main office instead. We will be happy to get a message to your child and provide a location where your child can return a call home to you if need be. The district currently has a plethora of phones in the building that dial out and afford a degree of privacy.

We ask for your continued support and encourage you to reach out if you have questions about the district's policy.



If you have any comments, suggestions, or would like to add an article to the bulletin, you can e-mail them to Caryn Draper at cdraper@newcombcasd.org



Welcome Mrs. Primo!

Please join me in welcoming Mrs. Hilary Primo to our NCS team. Mrs. Primo is a certified 7-12 Social Studies teacher who will be filling a long-term substitute leave for 7-12 English until January 24th. The week of January 24th, she will begin transitioning to 7-12 Social Studies where she will assume this role upon Mrs. Larkin's retirement at the end of January.

Mrs. Primo travels from the Crown Point area where she lives with her husband and three children. We are thrilled to have her join our school community!

Loss of Course Credit Due to Attendance:

Under the Commissioner's regulation, there is a minimum number of instructional hours for students. School districts across the state are required to provide 180 days of session with 900 instructional hours for students in grades kindergarten through grade 6 and 990 hours of instruction for students in grades 7- grade 12. In support of this, Newcomb's Attendance Policy is crafted to allow a specified number of absences before credit is lost for coursework. As a reminder, for a full year course at 20 absences (excused or unexcused), any student K-12 will lose credit for each course impacted by the absenteeism and will be required to attend summer school. For a half year course, at 10 absences (excused or unexcused), students will lose credit.

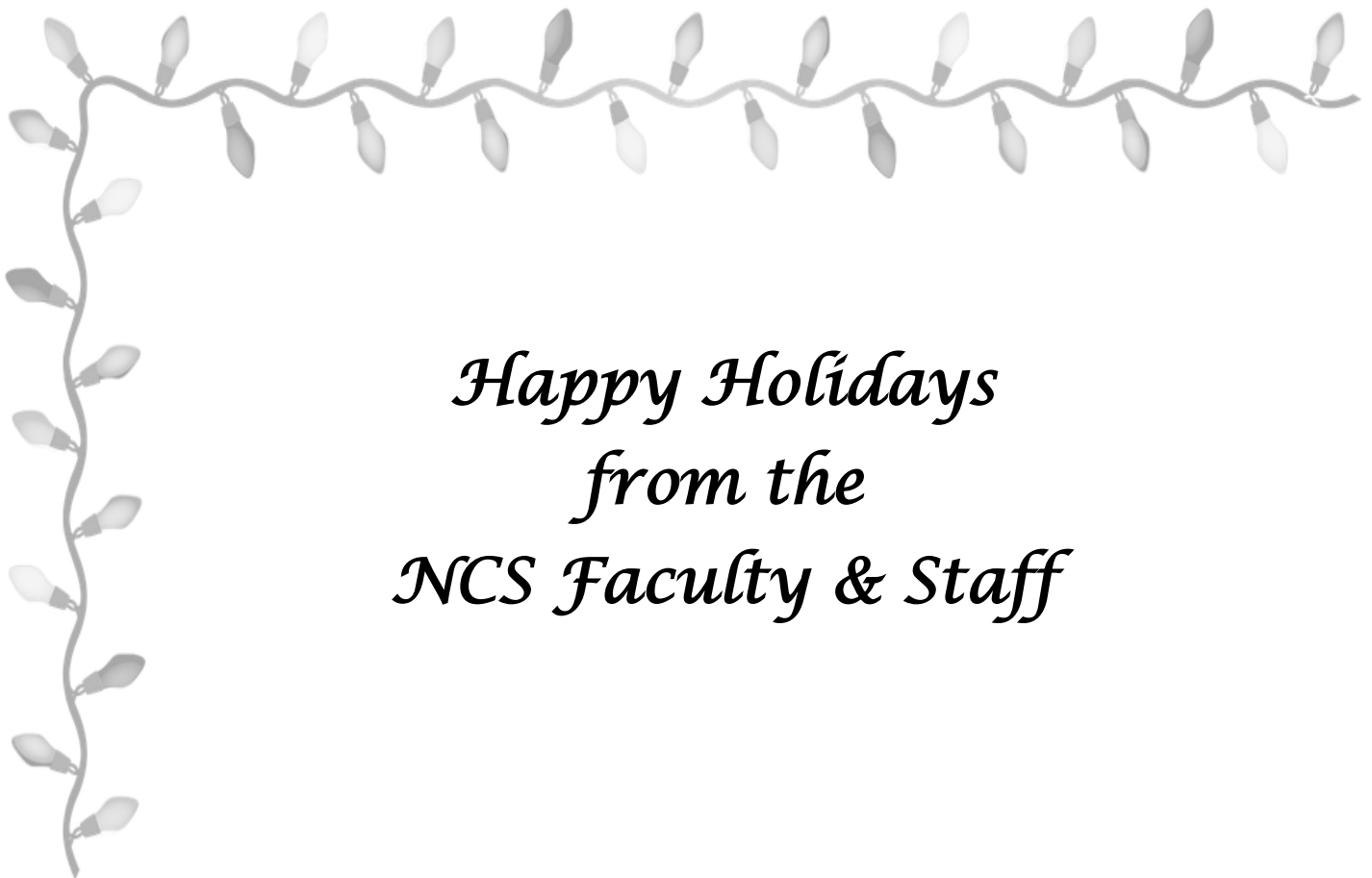
If your child has a medical appointment that cannot be otherwise scheduled outside of the school day, we ask that you bring your child to school for breakfast (7:45-7:58 am) and for homeroom period (8:00-8:02 am). Your child will have an opportunity to eat breakfast with us, collect their school work for the day, and have their daily attendance taken during homeroom period. In the eyes of New York State, this will not negatively impact our overall chronic absenteeism count. The classes that your child misses while out of school will continue to impact their period attendance for each course. It is suggested that you continue to monitor your child's overall attendance for each class to ensure that they do not lose credit for courses.

In rare instances, family emergencies may arise that require your child to be absent preceding or following a scheduled school vacation. For these circumstances, the Superintendent may give permission for students to participate in an Academic Study for Attendance Credit. The Academic Study for Attendance Credit requires advanced notice as the Board of Education also approves each course of study. To learn more about this option, please feel free to reach out to me at your convenience.

Improving chronic absenteeism continues to be an enormous challenge at NCS. Even a few students missing school on a consistent basis continues to negatively impact our overall numbers. Unfortunately, New York State does not take into account the pandemic or our geographic location when calculating the measure of interim progress (MIP) related to absenteeism. With small enrollment numbers, even a few students missing school regularly result in elevated numbers for chronic absenteeism.

If you have any questions about your child's current attendance standing, we invite you to reach out to the Health Office. Ms. LaFond would be happy to review daily attendance and course attendance with you.

Thank you for your continued partnership with addressing our attendance issues.



*Happy Holidays
from the
NCS Faculty & Staff*

Act with **Respect**TM *Always*



by PJ Motsiff, Director of Curriculum and Instruction

On November 22 the Newcomb teachers were geared up in their purple #99 Dri-fit Jerseys. This is because “Coach” Rich Johns visited our school with his **Act With Respect Always** message. His program stressed the importance of always being kind. The more kind you are, the more visible you become. “When you give kindness, it comes right back to refresh your own daily mental health.” The idea is to encourage written notes or words of gratitude and appreciation to those who have impacted your life. A friend, relative, a teacher or anyone that has shown kindness to you. These connections can and should be expanded. This allows you to be visible to the person you are writing to and they become visible, as well, to you. If you ever need someone to reach out to, your ‘visible circle’ is there for you. Connecting to those who you know will not judge you and that you can go to any time, will provide you with the help you may need, during good and bad times in your life. “While there are resources for students to help with daily stresses, subtle actions to make another person feel seen sometimes eases tensions, promotes a sense of community, and lets others know that they have more support systems than they initially thought.”

During our October Superintendent’s Day staff had a chance to meet Mr. Johns, a retired teacher from Saratoga. He explained to us “What our 99” is. People are often judged based on looks and that is only 1% of who we truly are. The other 99% is inside us and it is important to have empathy for each other in our school community. His message was a good reminder of why it is important to always treat others with respect.



School Closing Information

When the decision has been made to delay or close school, a Connect-Ed message will be activated to all school personnel, student homes, and other contacts noted in the school messaging system. The following radio/TV stations and their websites will carry our closings/delays:

The School Closings Network:

The Post Star
The Times Union
WRGB/WCWN TV
WFLY - Fly 92
WTEN/WXXA TV
WGY - 810 WGY
WRVE - The River
WNYT/WNYA TV
WYJB - B-95.5
Spectrum Local News

NCPR (North Country Public Radio)
WCAX Ch. 3 TV - Vermont
WPTZ Ch. 5 (NBC5) TV - Plattsburgh

In the event the Connect-Ed message system is not working properly, you will receive a phone call from a staff member of the school. If you have any changes in phone numbers, please contact the school so we may update our records.



BREAKFAST

DECEMBER 2021 NEWCOMB CENTRAL

Catereria Manager :Ellie Yandon
(518)582-3341 Ext #1021

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday



6
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Oatmeal

7
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Spanish Egg & Cheese Bake

8
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Bagels & Cream Cheese

9
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Egg Burrito Bake w/Sausage

10
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Waffles & Sausage

13
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Oatmeal

14
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Quiche (Egg & Biscuit Bake)

15
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Bagels & Cream Cheese

16
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Husky Sand w/Tky Bacon

17
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Pancakes & Sausage

20
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Oatmeal

21
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Scrambled Eggs w/Cheese

22
Milk 1% or FF, Yogurt
Juice, Fruit
51% WG Muffin
Cereal OR
Bagels & Cream Cheese

23
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

24
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

27
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

28
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

29
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

30
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

31
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

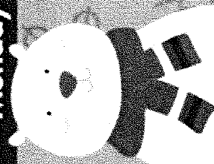
BREAKFAST ALTERNATIVE DAILY: Whole Grain cold Cereal, Milk, Fruit Juice, Fruit, and Homemade 51% Whole grain Muffin. In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, age or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against, write immediately to the Department of Agriculture. Please note that our menu is subject to change based on availability of food items.



DECEMBER 2021 NEWCOMB CENTRAL

Kitchen Manager: Ellie Yandon
517-337-0150
(518)582-3341 Ext #1021

Monday



6
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit, Veggies.
Veg. & Cheese Pizza
Tuna Salad Sandwich

13
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit, Veg
Italian Dunkers or
Chicken Salad Sandwich.

20
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit, Veg
Fish Patty & Bun with
Mac N Cheese or
Egg Salad Sand

27
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

Tuesday

7
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit, Veg
Sloppy Nachos, Rice
OR Tuna Salad Sand

14
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit, Veg
Beef and Bean Burrito, Rice
OR Chicken Salad Sand

21
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit, Veg
Chicken Tacos & Rice
OR Egg Salad Sand

28
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

Wednesday

1
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit, Veg
Hamburger & Bun with
Sweet Potato Fries or
Ham Salad Sand

8
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit, Veg
Chicken & Biscuits, Mash Pot.
OR Tuna Salad Sand

15
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit, Veg
Roll, Scalloped Potatoes &
Ham OR Chicken Salad sand

22
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit,
Chili and Corn Bread & Rice
or Egg Salad Sand

29
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

Thursday

2
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF, Cott. cheese
Fruit, Salad, Roll
Lasagna OR
Ham Salad Sand.

9
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF, Cott. cheese
Fruit, Salad, Roll
Goulash
OR Tuna Salad Sand

16
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit, Veggies.
BBQ Chicken, Garlic Mash Potatoes
OR Chicken Salad sand

23
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

30
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

Friday

3
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit,
Broccoli cheddar Soup &
Grilled cheese or Ham Salad

10
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit,
Tomato Soup & Grilled
cheese or Tuna Salad Sand

17
Milk/white 1% or FF or
Chocolate FF
Cottage cheese, Fruit,
Corn Chowder w/ Bacon
Grilled Cheese or Chix Sand

24
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

31
NO SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS BREAK

LUNCH ALTERNATIVE DAILY: Wow Butter& Jelly Sandwich or Sandwich of the week. Milk, Cheese Stick, Fruit & veg.. In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, age or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against, write immediately to the Department of Agriculture. Please note that our menu is subject to change based on availability of food items.

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

Congratulations!

Evan Anello accepted at SUNY Adirondack

Gavin Fifield was selected to represent Newcomb Central School at the HOBY Leadership Conference in June 2021

SENIORS

- All seniors going off to college will need to fill out the *FAFSA*. You can apply on-line, which saves a lot of time. Before you can do that **you and a parent** need to register for a *FSA ID*. To get your *FSA ID* you can go to www.fsaaid.ed.gov. If your parents or siblings have a PIN, they can “link” their PIN number to their FSA ID. This will aid in transferring your information from PIN to your FSA ID. When you receive your FSA ID number go to www.fafsa.ed.gov to apply for Financial Aid. Financial Aid forms can be filled out beginning in October this year, using last year’s tax returns. You should do this right away. Doing them on-line is much faster and easier.
- Please check your application before you send it out. Check spellings, print neatly, and check your grammar!!
- Ask at least 2 teachers to write you a letter of recommendation to keep in my office so that I can send them out with your applications.
- *VISIT* the colleges you plan to apply to! You are going to want to be at a place that you like. You won’t know that unless you take a tour. This year you may have to take your tour virtually, but it is still important to see the campus you plan to live.
- I need your updated Transcripts or Resumes so that I can send the college's accurate information. Please list all activities you have done grades 9-12, so that I don’t forget anything. Please include any Volunteer Work you have done. Remember, volunteering means you are not receiving money for the work you are doing. Example: Class fundraising is not Volunteer work. You are receiving money for a senior trip for all class fundraising activities.

SELECTIVE SERVICE/ DRAFT REGISTRATION

All male citizens of the United States are required to register with the Selective Service within 30 days of their 18th birthday. Registration forms are available at the post office or at www.sss.gov. Federal financial aid programs for college will be withheld from students who fail to comply.

DATES TO REMEMBER**SAT Testing Dates**

March 12, 2022
 May 7, 2022
 June 4, 2022

Registration Dates

February 11, 2022
 April 7, 2022
 May 5, 2022

ACT DATES

February 12, 2022
 April 2, 2022
 June 11, 2022

Register By:

January 7, 2022
 February 25, 2022
 May 6, 2022

Newcomb Central School CEEB Code is: 333-330. You will need to know that when you register to take the exams, so that I will receive your test scores.

DATES FOR JUNIORS TO REMEMBER

I will meet with each of you individually when I receive your PSAT scores. We will go over your scores and how that may help you in your college/career search. They should be in by December or January. In the meantime—**VISIT COLLEGES (take virtual college visits) AND ASK QUESTIONS.** You need to start **NOW**, do not wait until your senior year.

Reminder to parents of 3rd through 8th grade students

New York State testing will be in March through June. Please make sure your children get plenty of rest before their exams. Also, if you can help it, ***please make sure your child does not miss school on the day of an exam.*** These exams will be very difficult to make up. Please review the schedule below. Thank you for your support.

3-8 ELA: March 29th- April 5th, 2022
 3-8 Math: April 26th- May 4th, 2022
 Grade 4 Science Performance Test: May 24-June 3, 2022
 Grade 8 Science Performance Test: May 24-June 3, 2022
 Grades 4 & 8 Science Written Test: Monday, June 6, 2022

Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!
 Enjoy your vacation! Do something fun for yourself over break.

Mrs. Markwica

1ST QUARTER HONOR ROLL LIST

High Honor Roll

Honor Roll

(90 and up)

(85-89.9)

Grade 3:

Leah Poulin

Grade 4:

Abigail Gocke

Bush, Riley
Zion Matthews
Vannessa Pendell

Grade 5:

Bentley Lamphear

Emma Adams
Grace Hlavaty
Aryanna Marchioni
Andre Poulin
Serenity Sullivan

Grade 6:

Bush, Taylor
Piper Larabee

Marissa Fifield
Olivia Sage

Grade 7:

Camden Lamphear

Judah Matthews

Grade 8:

Hope Armstrong
Tristan Crittenden
Nicholas Pendell

Grade 9:

Rowan Hai

Sarah Gocke
Max Moline
Jadyn Whitefield

Grade 10:

Marcus Armstrong

Logan Bush

Grade 11:

Lauren Hai

Emily Fifield
Reece Hlavaty

Grade 12:

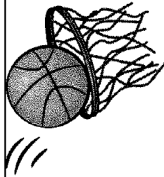
Al-Qtam, Ehab
Armstrong, Joshua
Bush, Brayden
Eldaa Ouedraogo
Elene Taniashvili
Konstantin Zaystev

Arina Berezkina
Eadie Brannon
Jordan Colon
Daria Krainova
Ben Lamos



FROM THE SPORTS CORNER

DECEMBER BASKETBALL GAME SCHEDULE

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
		1	2	3
6	7	8 BM @ J-Burg 5:00 BV @ J-Burg 6:30	9	10 BM @ Newcomb vs. IL/LL 5:00 BV @ Newcomb vs. IL/LL 6:30
13	14	15 BM @ Wells 5:00 BV @ Wells 6:30	16	17 BM @ Newcomb vs. CP 5:00 BV @ Newcomb vs. CP 6:00
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

*1st game time is 5:00 p.m. followed by 2nd game at 6:30p.m. Unless otherwise noted. Scheduled dates/times are subject to change.

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE



Dear Newcomb Central School Families,

As we approach the holiday season (and cold and flu season!), I would like to remind you that COVID-19 screening testing is offered to unvaccinated students at Newcomb Central School.

In collaboration with Essex County Health Department, we are able to offer pooled screening testing using Clarifi. The Clarifi COVID-19 test is the most sensitive saliva test available at this time. Over 2 million of these tests have been used in colleges and K-12 schools in New York State. The test is a very simple and painless **saliva swab** that the student can easily self-administer. It takes approximately one minute for our students to receive the test during the school day. Results from Clarifi testing return in 24-48 hours from being sent out.

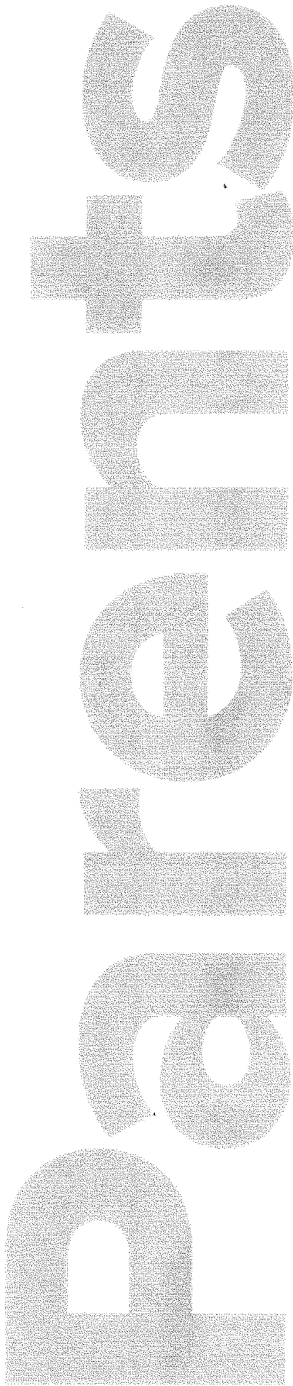
Testing is offered weekly, although participation weekly is not required.

To participate in the testing program, **you must complete** the following steps:

1. Register a new account at: app.Clarifi-COVID-19.com. A User Guide is available on this site.
2. Create a profile for each minor student in your care. (Note: You can register multiple student profiles under each account).
3. Do not attempt to *Register a COVID-19 Test*. This step will be done by the testing team on the day of your student's test.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Madison LaFond RN BSN



Fight Flu

at Home and School

Flu, or influenza, spreads easily and can make people very sick, especially kids. You can help stop flu!

Flu symptoms include:

Fever or chills, body aches, cough, sore throat, headache, runny or stuffy nose, feeling very tired. Some people, especially children, may have stomach problems and diarrhea. Unlike a cold, the flu comes on very suddenly.

Prevent flu!

- Flu vaccine is the best protection against the flu. It is recommended every year for everyone 6 months and older.
- Get the flu vaccine for you and your children every year! It helps make flu sickness milder or prevents it all together.
- Getting the vaccine early in the fall means you and your children will be protected when flu season starts.
- Ask people close to your children, like babysitters and relatives, to get the vaccine, too.
- The vaccine is especially important for people with certain health conditions, like asthma, diabetes, heart or lung conditions because the flu can make them even sicker.

If your child gets the flu:

- Your child will need plenty of rest and lots of fluids.
- Keep your child home from school for at least 24 hours after their fever is gone without using fever-control medicine. This helps avoid giving the flu to others.
- Talk with your child's health care provider before giving a child any over-the-counter medicine.
- Never give your child or teenager aspirin or any medicine that has aspirin in it. Aspirin can cause serious problems.
- If your child gets flu symptoms and is younger than 5 or has a medical condition like asthma, diabetes, or heart or lung disease, call their health care provider. Young children and those with certain medical conditions are at greater risk for getting seriously ill from the flu. Ask their health care provider if they recommend an antiviral drug.
- If you are worried about your child, call their health care provider.

Don't spread flu!

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water aren't handy, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, not your hands. Put used tissues in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. That's how germs spread.
- Stay away from people who are sick.

health.ny.gov/flu



Department
of Health

UPCOMING IN THE DISTRICT

December 2021

- 9 Board of Education Meeting, 6pm
- 17 Mid-Marking Period
- 23-31 Holiday Recess - NO SCHOOL

January 2022

- 3 Classes Resume
- 13 Board of Education Meeting, 6pm
- 17 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday - NO SCHOOL
- 28 End of 2nd Marking Period

NEWCOMB CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
P.O. Box 418
5535 STATE ROUTE 28N
NEWCOMB, NY 12852

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Fax: 518-582-2163
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