

Dear Lowell Families.

By now you are probably already aware that tomorrow begins a statewide "freeze" from November 18 to December 2, per the Governor's Executive Order 20-65. This freeze and the restrictions it brings are a measure aimed at decreasing incidents of Covid-19 in our communities, lowering our metrics in the hope of returning to in-person instruction and ensuring our hospitals and medical facilities are able to meet the needs of their patients. We are going to see limits placed on the size of our gatherings, our travel, take-out only for restaurants, closures of gyms and activities, and limits on the amount of shoppers in stores. These all feel like daunting restrictions in an already restricted world, but we do have good news too!

Our school district has worked to maintain in-person instruction for our Kindergarten through 3rd grade students and as much limited in-person instruction as we are allowed with our 4th through 12th grade students, and that is not going to change. We will continue just as we have been since the beginning of the year. We will also continue to provide food service delivery and drive-through. As has been our practice since the beginning of the school year, our offices and buildings are closed to the public and only students and staff are allowed. Any future changes to our athletics, activities or instruction will be communicated to you.

While it will be business as usual here, we are continuing to take every precaution and must follow all guidelines and advisories. One such advisory involves travel. Students who travel outside of the state will be advised to quarantine for 14 days upon their return. During that time, the student in quarantine will be able to participate in distance learning if they are following the guidance regarding out-of-state travel. If they choose to follow the advisory and quarantine, and are in a cohort or class with in-person or limited in-person instruction, they will be able to return to their class or cohort.

We commit to doing our best to communicate to you and welcome your questions. If you have additional questions regarding this freeze or our response to it, please feel free to call 541-937-5095 or email info@lowell.k12.or.us.

Please be safe, be healthy and be kind!