



April 3, 2020

Dear District 95 Families,

Happy Friday! As we complete another week of eLearning I am happy to report that overall our eLearning plans are working well across all levels. I am pleased that our student attendance levels continue to show that our students are overwhelmingly participatory in our eLearning programming. Our attendance levels continue to be very high, for example our secondary attendance yesterday was 99%! Additionally, we are very appreciative of the high levels of participation in our elementary needs survey. We received over 900 responses with 94.9% of our families self-reporting student success with the eLearning plan. Please also know that we are working to contact and collaboratively work with all families indicating greater needs outside of our current programming to ensure our student needs are met.

Also, as you know, this week we introduced Zoom as a new tool to extend our virtual learning capabilities and allow for connections between our students and staff. Over the course of this week, as staff were getting used to incorporating this new tool into their lessons, 486 Zoom sessions were held from Monday through Thursday. These numbers will only increase as next week teachers will begin using Zoom (or Canvas Conference at the secondary level) on a consistent basis.

We continue to update our [eLearning Expectations document](#) to reflect minor changes as we learn and grow from the implementation of our eLearning plan. Here are some reminders and additional details relating to our expectations relating to Zoom practices, grading, and grading scales.

### **ZOOM GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS**

While there were very few problems this week with our Zoom sessions, we have adapted our Zoom guidelines and expectations to better meet our needs as a district. Here are some important points that are important for all parents and students to remember.

- Parents, please remember that Zoom classes are intended for children and are the new “classroom”. Even if parent support is needed to help students access Zoom, parents must refrain from commenting or participating in the class.
- For both parents and students, please remember recording of any Zoom sessions is strictly prohibited.
- Finally, students should only display their real name during class meetings.

### **GRADES AND GRADING SCALES**

Another point of refinement deserves mentioning in relation to grading. Our eLearning Expectations document lists a general grading scale, however, pluses and minuses may or may not apply at different

**District 95 Administration Center – 832 South Rand Road - Lake Zurich IL 60047-2459**

**Phone: (847) 438-2831    FAX: (847) 438-6702    [www.lz95.org](http://www.lz95.org)**

levels. If parents or students have any questions about the grading scale, questions should be directed to the student's teacher.

Also, please note that Home Access has now been modified to reflect an "I" for Incomplete rather than an "F" for the letter grade in accordance with our eLearning plan.

### **IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

To continue to provide professional learning opportunities for our staff, there will be two days this month, **April 13th and April 27th**, where teachers will be engaging in meetings and trainings. **On those days, student work is to continue and attendance WILL be taken, but teacher office hours and Zoom/Canvas Conference meetings will not take place.** On these days, elementary students may select options from their choice boards and secondary students may work on homework and/or other assignments.

Additionally, please note that **Friday, April 10th, is a previously planned non-attendance day** for all students and staff. No eLearning will take place on that day.

### **DISTRICT 95 TEACHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE AWARD**

Finally, as we try to maintain some of our traditions to make this highly unusual school year a bit more normal, we are asking parents and/or students to consider submitting a nomination for our annual [Teachers Make a Difference Award](#). Each year, three teachers are selected for the award from among the district's many outstanding professionals. The award recipients will be honored and will receive a monetary award toward the use of professional development or other educational resources. Nominations are due by Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Please direct any questions to [nominations@lz95.org](mailto:nominations@lz95.org).

### **FOOD SUPPORT FOR THE COMING WEEK**

**ALPINE CHAPEL** - 23153 W. Miller Rd, has a food pantry available from 9am-noon every Saturday. The food pantry WILL BE OPEN the week of Easter (Saturday, April 11th, 2020).

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY** - The food pantry WILL NOT BE OPEN the week of Easter (Thursday, April 9th, 2020). Please note, the Harvest Room Sunday evening dinners have been suspended indefinitely at this time.

**MEAL ASSISTANCE FROM DISTRICT 95** - District 95 is providing bagged grab-and-go breakfast and lunches to families in need of meal assistance during the COVID-19 related school closures. *Even if you have never before demonstrated a need for such services, please know that if your situation has changed over the last several weeks and now you are in need, you may participate in our meal assistance program.*

- PICK-UP LOCATION: Lake Zurich High School – Door #12, on the west side of the building. Please enter via the main high school driveway and follow the signs.
- TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

**District 95 Administration Center – 832 South Rand Road - Lake Zurich IL 60047-2459**

**Phone: (847) 438-2831    FAX: (847) 438-6702    [www.lz95.org](http://www.lz95.org)**

- PICK-UP DAYS: Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays (Note: Meals WILL be distributed on Friday April 10th despite it being a non-attendance day. Both the meal pickup at the high school and the delivered meals will be offered as usual.)
- ELIGIBILITY: Children age 18 and under, and Special Education students age 21 and under.

On Mondays and Wednesdays, the District will provide 2 breakfasts and 2 lunches per child. On Fridays the District will provide 1 breakfast and 1 lunch per child. Families will be met at the curb and should not exit their vehicles.

**If you are unable to pick up the grab-and-go meals** but would still like your child to receive meals, we are trying to offer delivery via a school bus drop off at your home. If circumstances allow for a home/neighborhood delivery, we need your information. Please provide information via clicking this link [Meal Assistance](#). Alternatively, you may call 847-540-4943 or email [BusinessOffice@lz95.org](mailto:BusinessOffice@lz95.org) – leave a message with your contact name, number of children, address and phone number. Delivery is planned to take place from 10am to noon. If we are unable to complete home/neighborhood delivery, we will contact you.

Enjoy a restful weekend as we move into some warmer spring weather. While social distancing and *Stay-at-Home* orders still apply, hopefully this at least allows a bit of time outside for play and exercise.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kelley Gallt

Superintendent