



October 23, 2020

Dear Keeneyville District 20 Families,

This week, we excitedly welcomed back our first group of students to in-person learning at our elementary schools. It was great to see our youngest learners! Next week, we will continue our [gradual transition plan](#) with our second and third grade students returning to in-person learning. The health and safety of our students and staff remains our top priority and we continue to monitor COVID-19 reports, metrics, and guidance extremely closely. As such, we will return to sending D20 weekly updates to our families and staff to share important information.

Several times each week, our Administration meets with the DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) and other local school districts to review metrics related to the [spread of COVID-19 in our county](#). This information is utilized along with resources from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and other state and local agencies, to monitor trends that may impact our learning models. Earlier this week, DCHD made a general county-wide determination that there was a “substantial” community spread in DuPage County, and broadly recommended a return to remote learning. We anticipate that a similar recommendation will be released early next week. We take this information very seriously when making decisions for District 20.

It is important to note that [IDPH’s guidelines](#) regarding whether to move to remote learning as an “adaptive pause” make it clear that different school districts in the same county may have different responses when there is such a shift in community transition rates. IDPH underscores the importance of being prepared and being able to make local decisions based on the variety of factors in any single school community. A variety of factors may affect the decision to continue in-person learning, including the size and population density of the district, the level of preparedness, availability of resources needed for response, or if a disproportionate number of students or staff who would be adversely affected by the preferred intervention.

District 20 makes the decision whether to continue to offer in-person learning only if we can do so safely and with the review of the D20 Board of Education, Keeneyville Education Association, and Administration. ***At this time, we will continue to provide in-person and remote instruction as we feel that we can do so safely for our students and staff.*** We will continue to adhere to our health and safety protocols for students and staff at all of our buildings. We also appreciate your family’s help in following the 3Ws inside and outside of school – ***Wash your hands, Wear your masks, and Watch your distance.***

In the event that the district decides to transition our students from in-person to full remote instruction, we will follow IDPH and DCHD guidance and use “adaptive pauses” for one to three weeks, which may be done at the classroom, grade-level, school, and/or district level. We will make every effort to provide families with a week’s notice prior to making a transition to full remote learning, as long as we can do so safely for our students and staff. If we do need to return to full remote instruction for a period of time, we will follow ***the schedule that is in place at that time.*** Our goal remains to transition all grade levels to the AM/PM schedule so that we can remain flexible and adapt to the circumstances as we move through the school year.

We will continue to provide you with regular updates and as any important information arises. Please also look to the [D20 Communication Center](#) on our website for important information and updates. We appreciate your support as we continue to adapt to the fluid nature of this pandemic. Thank you again for your support and partnership in helping to keep community as safe as possible.

Sincerely,

Dr. Omar Castillo  
Superintendent of Schools  
Keeneyville ESD 20