



November 10, 2020

Dear Keeneyville District 20 Families,

The health and safety of our students, staff, and families is still the top priority for us. We continue to monitor various COVID-19 related metrics daily to ensure that our school environment remains safe. Following our weekly meeting yesterday with the DuPage County Health Department (DCHD), we were informed that the county will be staying at the ["Substantial" Community Transition Level](#) for this week. The DCHD continues to support the decision-making authority and discretion of superintendents to determine the appropriate learning plans, whether remote or in-person, and implementation for their specific school district. The D20 Administration carefully monitors district and school-level factors such as the number of positive cases and outbreak activities, absenteeism among our students and staff, health and safety protocols, as well as our ability to implement key mitigation strategies to help keep our learning community as safe as possible.

Please see below for an update on the Return to Learn Plan for District 20. Additional details and information will be coming from your schools.

Middle School

As you are aware, our plan was to transition our middle school students to in-person learning starting Monday, November 16. ***We have made the decision to delay the transition of our middle school students and they will remain in the current full remote learning model and schedule until further notice.*** Middle school students will not switch to the AM/PM schedule at this time. Additional information will come from your child's school. This mitigation strategy will help to reduce community spread as we will not be bringing the large number of middle school students together in one building. In addition, we have seen some students begin to opt-out of in-person learning which is impacting our class sizes and staffing needs at Spring Wood. We will continue to assess the circumstances and make the transition to in-person learning for these students when we feel that we can do so in a safe manner.

Elementary Schools

Due to the success that we are having at our elementary schools with the current in-person hybrid model, we will continue with that model until further notice as well. We have not seen a rise in student or staff positive cases, nor a concerning increase in absenteeism for students or staff at the elementary level. We feel the health and safety protocols currently in place are working. We will continue to closely monitor the situation and will update families if we feel that we need to make any changes in our learning plan.

As we get closer to the Thanksgiving Break, please take a moment to review the [CDC's recommendations for Holiday Gatherings and Travel](#) as you make your holiday plans in an effort to protect yourself and others, as well as help mitigate community spread. ***It takes a community effort to help keep us safe.*** If your family is in need of support or resources during the holidays, we would like to share a list of [DuPage Free Resources](#) for Thanksgiving and the Holidays.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank our families for your continued support and help in keeping our community safe. We are truly thankful for the Keeneyville D20 families, students and staff!

Sincerely,

Dr. Omar Castillo
Superintendent of Schools
Keeneyville ESD 20