



Palos School District 118

8800 W. 119th St. | Palos Park, IL 60464 | 708-448-4800 | www.palos118.org

Dear Palos 118 Families,

Thank you for another great week at Palos 118! I have just a couple updates to share with families.

Second Semester

We had a smooth transition to the second semester this week with a handful of families electing to switch instructional models for the remainder of the school year. We wish all of our students the very best for the second half of the school year! If you have not completed our survey soliciting feedback on the first semester, please take a couple of minutes to do so by [clicking on this link](#).

Spring Break

Spring Break is rapidly approaching! Weekly calls between school superintendents and the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) have focused on the county's updated travel guidance, which can be found here: <https://cookcountypublichealth.org/communicable-diseases/covid-19/covid-19-travel-guidance/>. CCDPH has indicated that additional guidance may be forthcoming, specifically to help school districts address family travel during spring break. As we have done in the past, the school district continues to recommend that families follow the county's travel guidance if they are going to travel out of state. We are asking parents to please complete this very short survey regarding spring break travel by [clicking on this link](#).

Dr. Higgins Presentation

On Tuesday evening, Palos 118 hosted a virtual parent information night with Dr. Christopher Higgins, licensed clinical psychologist, and founder of Palos Behavioral Health Professionals. Dr. Higgins' presentation addressed what effects the events of 2020, such as the Covid-19 pandemic along with other national events, have on children. Dr. Higgins was kind enough to allow us to record his presentation so families unable to attend are able to view. You can view the presentation by [clicking on the following link](#). Thank you to the nearly 100 attendees at Tuesday's event!

This week's metrics:

- **A return to Phase 3 of the Governor's Restore Illinois Plan**
Suburban Cook County remains in Phase 4, which allows schools to conduct in-person instruction. Source: Governor's Office
- **Outbreaks of confirmed COVID-19 cases in schools**
We are unaware of any reported outbreaks in area schools. Source: ISC-4 and media reports.

- **Confirmed Community Spread**

Test Positivity is "moderate." New Cases per 100,000 is "substantial." New Cases are "minimal." Youth Case Increase is "minimal." The 7-day rolling positivity rate is $\leq 8\%$. The 14-day rolling positivity rate is $\leq 8\%$. Source: IDPH and Northwestern University

- **Directive from IDPH, CCDPH, ISBE, or the Governor's Office**

There have been no new directives this week.

- **District 118 Staffing**

If you are interested in becoming a substitute teacher, visit the [employment page](#) of our website to see if you qualify and to fill out an online application.

- **COVID Dashboard Statistics**

You can view our updated COVID Dashboard by visiting our website. www.palos118.org.

Sincerely,

Dr. Anthony M. Scarsella
Superintendent of Schools