

Greetings La Porte ISD stakeholders.

Today is a great day to be a Bulldog! As we approach Spring Break, we also approach the one-year anniversary of COVID-19 wreaking havoc on our nation and world. I think everyone can agree that this has been one of the most difficult years in recent history. A year ago, at this time, most of us still referred to the spread as coronavirus. By the end of 2020, Merriam-Webster named *pandemic* as its word of the year.

Fortunately, the light is becoming brighter at the end of this long dark tunnel.

Vaccinations

As of early this week, more than 90 million COVID-19 vaccination doses had been administered in America, including more than 630,000 in Harris County. With FDA approval of the third vaccine recently, more doses are being shipped to clinics across the country, and the vaccination pace is increasing.

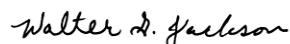
Confirmed cases

Though even one confirmed case of COVID-19 is too much, the daily average of confirmed cases continues to trend downward in our country. At La Porte ISD, we continue to maintain a confirmed positive rate of less than a third of a percentage point, and it is because we have been purposeful in our efforts to wear masks, socially distance and sanitize our facilities.

Though we are getting closer, there is still work to be done to rid ourselves of COVID-19 risk. With that, it is my prayer that we fare much better in March 2021 than we did in March 2020. I am also hopeful that our Word of the Year for 2021 is **Recovery**.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and myself, may everyone have a safe and relaxing Spring Break. We look forward to seeing you again on March 22.

Sincerely,



Dr. Walter Jackson

Superintendent of Schools