



Homer Community Consolidated School District 33C

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BOE Statement
June 22, 2021

Good evening 33C Community,

The School Board is aware of the questions currently circulating throughout Homer 33C as well as many neighboring school districts regarding masks, vaccination mandates, and curriculum issues surrounding Critical Race Theory and SB 0818.

On May 19, 2021, the Illinois State Board of Education unanimously adopted a resolution supporting in-person learning. Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, all schools must resume fully in-person learning for all student attendance days. At this time, masks are still required for this upcoming return to school. The district will continue to follow all mandates from the Illinois State Board of Education as they relate to COVID-19 safety and protocols.

Regarding curricular issues, the Illinois State Learning Standards do not overtly include the teaching of Critical Race Theory at the K-12 level. While all instructional activities and lessons are designed to be age appropriate for our students, we recognize there may be some conversation surrounding understanding what exactly that looks and sounds like in the classroom. This is where we would encourage and laud the practice of exercising free speech within the process of legislative representation. Just as we teach our students to stand up for what they believe is right, we would continue to encourage any community members with concerns to advocate for their children by contacting and petitioning local and state leaders that currently influence such impactful decisions.

As has historically been the case, Homer 33C curriculum aligns to the Illinois State Learning Standards. While we do have the autonomy to exercise choice and flexibility in many academic decisions concerning the students within our care, we do not have the latitude to decide whether or not adhere to the laws and school code language that is passed down from state legislature or through the state school board.