2021-22 School Year Update

July 15, 2021

From the Desk of Dr. Mary Henderson





2021-22 School Year Calendar

Regular monthly Board of Education Meeting: Tuesday, July 20 at 7:00 p.m. Illinois Department of Public Health <u>Trend Data</u>
DuPage County Health Department <u>Data Dashboard</u>

Dear Roselle D12 Families,

As you know, we are planning for the return to full day, in-person learning for all of our students for the 2021-2022 school year, following the mandate issued by the Illinois State Board of Education last month. It is still our top priority to provide a safe learning environment, and we will continue to follow state and local COVID-19 guidelines to protect the health and safety of our staff and students.

On July 9, we were notified that the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) adopted the <u>updated</u> <u>guidelines</u> for schools issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We have reviewed the guidelines and we are now waiting for clarification on several issues that impact regular school operations. We are working collaboratively with the other Lake Park High School feeder school districts to implement consistent protocols that will best protect the health and safety of all students and staff as well as getting closer to pre-pandemic learning experiences.

We know that families are anxious to know details about the ways in which schools will be operating. Additionally, we learned a great deal about how to successfully keep our students and staff safe while

also keeping our schools open during the 2020-21 school year. Our goal is to blend what we learned about safety with updated information and guidance.

As we finalize details, there are some aspects of our planning that we know and that families should keep in mind:

- 1. All students are expected to return to full-time in-person instruction. This is pursuant to the following directive from Dr. Carmen Ayala, the Illinois State Board of Education Superintendent: Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, all schools must resume fully in-person learning for all student attendance days, provided that, pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-30 and 105 ILCS 5/34-18.66, remote instruction be made available for students who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine or who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine, only while they are under quarantine consistent with guidance or requirements from a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health. This directive means that there is no full-time remote learning option for students. If you believe you have an exception to this mandate, it is critical that you contact me right away at mhenderson@sd12.org.
- 2. We do know from the guidance that students and staff who are fully vaccinated will not be required to quarantine if they are identified as a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case.
- 3. Distancing *and* close contact definitions have changed from six feet to three feet.
- 4. All people on a school bus, *regardless of vaccination status*, <u>must</u> wear a mask.

Kindergarten Registration

As of today, we have 62 students registered for kindergarten. This is below our enrollment projections. We have not hired a fourth teacher for kindergarten as this number of students would require only three classrooms. With teacher shortages at an all time high, it is concerning that we may struggle to find a quality teacher if we have many families who wait until the last minute to register. If you have questions about registration, please call Mrs. Dumelle at 630-529-2091.

I will continue to provide you with information as quickly as I receive it. Thank you for continuing to support our schools!

Sincerely,

Dr. Mary Henderson, Superintendent







