

Remote Learning Update

January 11, 2021

*From the Desk of
Dr. Mary Henderson*



[2020-21 School Year Calendar](#)

Next SMART day: Wednesday, January 13

NO SCHOOL: Monday, January 18

Regular monthly Board of Education Meeting: Tuesday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Illinois Department of Public Health [Trend Data](#)

DuPage County Health Department [Data Dashboard](#)

[2020-21 Remote Learning Newsletters](#)

[2020-21 In-person Learning Newsletters](#)

Weekly DuPage County COVID-19 Metrics for Schools

This week DuPage County remains at the substantial level of transmission. The metrics have shown improvement since November. Two of the four metrics, number of new cases and youth cases, are at the minimal level of transmission. The other two metrics, percent positivity and case count per 100,000 people, are at the substantial level of transmission, though they are both showing improvement. **Important Note: The metrics are always for the week prior to posting.** We will continue to monitor closely, and we will continue to speak with the DuPage County Health Department weekly. Daily case counts in DuPage County are consistently have gone from 600-800 cases per day in late November/early December to 200-400 cases per day currently. This is great news, though there is still improvement needed, and it is critical that we remain vigilant with wearing masks, maintaining social

distancing, and quarantining/isolating when there has been exposure, symptoms, and/or positive cases.

Regular Board of Education Meeting

The Board of Education will meet for its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m. One item scheduled for the meeting has been removed: Changes to the 2020-21 calendar. We will be leaving our calendar as is for this school year.

This Board of Education meeting will be held virtually and live-streamed via YouTube. A link will be sent to all families at approximately 6:45 p.m. that evening. Public comments may be submitted [here](#).

COVID-19 Vaccine

Our school district staff will be eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine with Group 1b, essential workers. Once the majority of healthcare workers and long-term care staff and residents have had the opportunity, it will be our turn. We are coordinating with the DuPage County Health Department in this effort. We are organized and ready to go the minute we are notified we are eligible.

Remote Learning Visits

I have spent time with each of our remote learning classes at Spring Hills. During the visits I've asked students what they enjoy most about getting to learn at home. While our younger kids' answers focused on more time with their family, often our older kids talked about enjoying their breaks because they are able to relax in a way that they enjoy. I think that is a lesson we can take back to classrooms. I also asked our older kids what they think we should incorporate into our classrooms when we are all together again. Our students demonstrated such insight, including one student who shared, "I think we have proven we don't need to do so much on paper because we have the technology we need." I look forward to asking these same questions of our middle school remote learners this month!

I've enjoyed seeing our students back learning and setting goals for 2021. I know we are all hoping for a better year and a return to more normalcy!

Sincerely,
Dr. Mary Henderson, Superintendent

