

October 15, 2020

NSSSED Learning Model Status

While we continue in our Blended Remote Learning phase, we are monitoring the COVID-19 situation closely with public health departments. In discussions with them yesterday, we learned that COVID-19 conditions in our region are trending in the wrong direction. Furthermore, infection rates for all Illinois regions are also increasing, as echoed by Governor Pritzker in his state communications yesterday.

Given this local and state news, we feel it is important to remind everyone that due to the realities of COVID-19, it could be possible in the future to [pivot back to our remote phase of our reopening plan](#) if this trend continues. We encourage everyone to make a plan for yourself and your family, should such a decision be made unfortunately without much advance notice. If such a decision were to be made in the future, we would use the same procedure of notification as occurs on emergency inclement weather-related days - by email, automated call, and a follow up from your administrator.

Please understand we remain strongly committed to offering in-person learning for as long, and as much as possible, due to the importance of it for our population of learners as outlined in [Illinois State Board of Education guidance](#). At the same time, we also recognize with uncertainty there is anxiety, and we are doing our best to communicate early, make thoughtful decisions, and prioritize everyone's health and safety with the importance of in-person schooling for our students.

It is everyone's responsibility to help keep all communities healthy and schools open. Please assist us by:

- Completing the NSSSED self certification every weekday**
 - whether you/your child are/is in attendance or not**
 - especially if you/your child have any symptoms**
- Wearing a mask**
- Washing your hands**
- Watching your distance**
- Getting a flu shot now; don't wait!
- Limiting your travel
- Cooperating with public health contact tracers

Finally, the Lake County Health Department is announcing free Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) testing is coming to Wauconda, Fox Lake, Libertyville, and Vernon Hills over the next week. Please see this [press release](#) for more information.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Kurt A. Schneider, Ph.D.

Superintendent
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