

September 17, 2020

Dear NSSED Families and Staff,

Phase Change Announcement

Per our Reopening Plan, we will communicate our decision on whether to remain in Blended Remote Learning (Phase 2) or move to In-Person Learning (Phase 3) no later than Tuesday, September 29, 2020.

Data points, or metrics, are important considerations, but both Lake and Cook County public health officials have stated that county metrics only tell part of the story. When we make determinations about learning models, we balance educational needs and medical information. We will always be guided by our top priority, the health and safety of our students and staff.

Reopening Plan

We have revised and added new guidance into the Reopening Plan. Please see the following items:

- [Quarantine and Isolation Guidelines](#)
- [District/School Cleaning Procedures: Materials](#)
- [Itinerant Services: Teaching Equipment](#)
- [Itinerant Services: Returning Equipment](#)

Keep our Community Safe and Healthy

Remember that wherever you go, you should always follow public health guidelines - the 3 Ws - to reduce your risk of getting and spreading COVID-19:

- WEAR A MASK
- WASH YOUR HANDS
- WATCH YOUR DISTANCE

Please get a flu shot before the end of September. The Lake and Cook County Health Departments recommend this to prevent co-infections. Flu shots are available now; don't wait!

Travel

We ask families and staff to limit travel to reduce the risk of inadvertently bringing the virus to school and work. Regional public health officials caution that social gatherings such as weddings, family parties, and other larger events continue to be a main source of virus spreading. Please follow their guidance if you travel:

- [Lake County Health Department Guidance for Travelers](#)
- [Cook County Public Health Travel Guidance](#)
- [Illinois Department of Public Health Travel Guidance](#)

Community Update

Both Lake and Cook County public health officials are working on guidance related to “safer” Halloween celebrations.

Staff Updates

- Watch your inbox for our organizational culture survey!
- We will not be offering flu shots this year at the DSC office like we have in the past. You can use your Blue Cross/Blue Shield medical coverage for a flu shot at participating providers, or many providers are offering free shots.

Kurt A. Schneider, Ph.D.

Superintendent

Northern Suburban Special Education District