



BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH TOMORROW'S LEADERS

WE ARE SD81

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Dear SD81 Families:

I would like to share important information discussed at the Board of Education meeting this evening. It is with an abundance of caution that District 81 will implement an adaptive pause to in-person learning in accordance with Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) guidelines. This pause comes because our community and region have entered into what is considered Substantial Community Transmission. **In consideration of the health and safety of our students and staff, District 81 will transition all students from the hybrid instructional model to remote learning beginning October 28th for at least two weeks.**

It is important to me that you understand how decisions have been made regarding opening our schools during the pandemic: On September 14, our first group of students returned to hybrid in-person learning, with an 8.4% 7-day average positivity rate in Schiller Park. On October 5th, the second group of students returned to hybrid in-person learning with a 6.2% 7-day average positivity rate. These positivity rates placed our community in the moderate range for transmission of the disease. Guidance on this can be found on [COVID-19 School Metrics Guidance](#). SD81 followed the guidelines under moderate transmission by offering a blend of hybrid and full remote learning to our students.

As of October 20th, Schiller Park's 7-day average was 16.9%. West Cook's 7-Day average was 10.5% This information can be found at <https://ccdphcd.shinyapps.io/covid19/>. These positivity rates place our community in the substantial range for transmission. School metrics guidance can be found here ([COVID-19 School Metrics Guidance](#)). As you see in this table, the guidance recommends SD81 pivot to full remote learning at this time. Our intention is that the two-week adaptive pause will allow the transmission rates to recede.

It becomes increasingly challenging for our schools to prevent the transmission of the virus and keep our students and staff safe as the number of positive cases in our area rises. I understand and have empathy for those of you who have to modify your work schedules again. I will continue to work tirelessly with my administrative team, educators, service providers and health office, who have been doing everything possible to provide continuity of instruction for students while we keep in mind the health and safety of our learning community.

I sincerely appreciate your flexibility and understanding as we work through these challenges together. We are living in a world where change is a reality from one moment to the next, and I know it has taken its toll on our learning community. As always, I am here to support all of you through this difficult time. Please know that we will continue to work with you in the best interest of your children.

Respectfully,

Dr. Kimberly Boryszewski, Superintendent of Schools