



BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH TOMORROW'S LEADERS

WE ARE SD81

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Dear SD81 Families,

I hope that this past weekend was filled with joy and creating new memories. The Village of Schiller Park did an outstanding job of safely sprinkling Halloween cheer throughout the community! It was so heartwarming to see pictures of everyone having so much fun. I would like to take this opportunity to discuss what the future holds for our students and families moving forward into the school year.

Today marks the beginning of our adaptive pause to in-person instruction for all students. Since some students attended school last week, the official start day of the pause begins today, which means the two-week adaptive pause will end on Friday, November 13th.

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) encourages 100% remote learning when a community is in “Substantial Community Transmission”, marked by a daily positivity rate of over 8%. (*Information regarding these guidelines can be found [here](#).*) As of November 1st, Schiller Park’s 7-day rolling average was 13.2%. (*This statistic can be found [here](#).*) The West Cook’s weekly percent positivity as of October 31st was 12.6%. (*This statistic can be found [here](#).*) Our area’s level of COVID-19 Community Transmission is determined by the highest category in which a single metric is met or exceeded. For example, if one metric is met or exceeded in the “Substantial Community Transmission” category, we would be at that level. When considering a shift to in-person learning, all metrics should be under the identified threshold for a given level for at least 2 consecutive weeks. Given the trajectory of the COVID-19 numbers in our area, it is not probable that we would move back and stay in the “Moderate Community Transition” range for two consecutive weeks within our adaptive pause time frame. Therefore, it is unlikely students will return to in-person learning the week of November 16th.

I would like to prepare you for the real possibility that remote learning will continue through the end of Thanksgiving break, which is scheduled for November 23rd-November 27. It would be a disruption to student learning to pivot back to hybrid learning for one week. We will continue to monitor the numbers and will send an official notification no later than November 12th.

We will continue to make the health and safety of our learning community the number one priority. I appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work through these challenges and changes together. As always, I am happy to answer any questions you may have. Please stay safe and healthy.

Respectfully,

Dr. Kimberly Boryszewski, Superintendent of Schools