



Monday Memo

From Supt. Dr. Joylynn Pruitt-Adams

March 1, 2021

Important links:

- [Hybrid Learning and COVID-19 Information Center](#)
- [A/B Day Calendar + Cohort Rotations + Saliva Testing Dates](#)
- [COVID-19 dashboard](#)

5Essentials survey

Parents/guardians, please participate in the Illinois 5Essentials parent survey! Your participation helps guide school improvement. The survey is completely anonymous. We need at least 20 percent of all parents to respond in order for 5Essentials to generate a report on parent results. Please visit <https://survey.5-essentials.org/Illinois/> to take the parent survey.

Remote learning for ALL students on March 8 and 15

On March 6 and March 13, we will hold our second-dose vaccination clinics for employees. We expect more teacher absences than normal due to vaccine side effects. Given that there is a significant shortage of substitutes, ALL students will participate in classes remotely on Monday, March 8, and Monday, March 15. This allows teachers who may feel a bit under the weather to teach remotely, so we don't have to find subs. NOTE: Athletics tryouts and practices scheduled for March 8 or 15 will still take place.

Calendar for cohorts and saliva test drop-off remains the same for now

We are not shifting our calendar because of the two remote Mondays. However, now that we have solid attendance data, we are examining how we can bring more students into the building for classes more often. We will be putting out a communication about this in the next few days, so please stay tuned for further details.

Info on protocols

Based on several recurring questions about our health and safety protocols, we want to share with you the following information:

- **Anyone who fails the health screener or the saliva test MUST provide a negative COVID test, or an alternative diagnosis in writing from a doctor, in order to return to school.** Please understand that keeping COVID out of the building is **imperative**. COVID symptoms can be quite mild, and what may seem to be just the sniffles could very well be a positive case.
- **The identity of students or employees who test positive cannot, and will not, be shared.** Our Health Services team does contact tracing for positive cases. If someone is determined to be a close contact, they will be notified directly by Health Services or an administrator. Any student or employee who may have been in close contact--defined as being within six feet for at least 15 minutes over a 24-hour period--will be required to quarantine.

Continued on next page

New test-kit pickup March 1-5

During the week of March 1-5, students can pick up new test kits with enough barcodes, vials, straws, and envelopes for the rest of the semester. (Employee kits will be available the week of March 8.) Kits will be available outside the Little Theatre during the following times:

- *Monday, March 1:* 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- *Tuesday, March 2:* 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- *Wednesday, March 3:* 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- *Thursday, March 4:* 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- *Friday, March 5:* 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

After March 5, you can pick up a kit Monday - Friday, 7:45 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Quarantining after travel

The Cook County Department of Public Health recommends that anyone traveling from certain states either obtain a negative COVID-19 test result no more than 72 hours prior to arrival in suburban Cook County or quarantine for 10 days after arrival. Vaccinated persons who received their final vaccine two or more weeks ago and have travelled domestically are not required to quarantine if they are asymptomatic.

The county's travel advice is updated weekly, so please visit the page [Cook County Department of Public Health Travel Guidance](#) for the latest information. To help our school community stay as safe as possible, please abide by the county recommendations.