



October 30, 2020

Greetings FSD Staff and Families,

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!

With all of our Region's COVID-19 restrictions, please be safe. If you are celebrating Halloween, please take extra precaution so we can all minimize the impact to our schools and families across the district in the weeks ahead.

This week our District letter is focused on explaining the current state of our district schools after several disappointing closures of schools to reduce spread of the coronavirus. Approximately 2000 students started remote only learning on Tuesday, October 27 through Monday, November 6. Students grades 7-12 are slated to return on November 9.

COVID-19 Closures Impact Half of the District Students

The Board held a special meeting on Wednesday, October 21 to update COVID metrics related to school based COVID data. [Review Amended Metrics](#) In less than a week, the District acted swiftly upon advice from the Stephenson County Health Department to reduce spread of the virus among our oldest students.

At the time of closure of FMS, FHS, FAHS, Banks/Bergagna (grades 7-12) on Monday, there were:

- 10 new student positive cases (6 at FHS, 3 at FMS, 1 at FAHS).
- Multiple students and staff were placed on quarantine as a result of contact with positive cases
- Athletics/extracurricular activities were placed on a two week pause

The pandemic continues to remind us that we are part of a larger picture. Our District data reflects the dramatic changes in our own community in the last week. [Please click here to review.](#)

Safety procedures at school (i.e. - building and bus sanitization, wearing masks, daily symptom checks, etc.) are working to keep us in school. As a community, together we can wear our masks, socially distance and sanitize. Once again, we are very proud of our students and staff for all their efforts in keeping masks on when in school buildings. Thank you for the selflessness being demonstrated everyday.

Upcoming Important Dates:

- Friday, October 30 - End of First Quarter Grade Reporting Period
- Tuesday, November 3 - Election Day -- NO SCHOOL (all District offices closed) **VOTE!!!**
- Wednesday, November 4 - Parent-Teacher Conferences -- NO SCHOOL (for students)
- Wednesday, November 25 - Friday, November 27 - Thanksgiving Break -- NO SCHOOL (all District offices closed)

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parents should be watching email and bookbags for information regarding parent/teacher conferences coming up on November 4. Many teachers will offer options either on November 4 or on alternate dates. New this

year: PK-6th grade guardians and teachers can meet either in person, over the phone, or on a zoom call. Please tell your student's teachers which method works best for your family at this time. Those attending Parent/Teacher Conferences in person should self-certify that they are symptom free before attending the conference and anticipate having their temperature taken upon entry. 7th - 12th grade Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held only via the telephone or Zoom.

Daylight Savings Time

Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 1, at 2:00 AM. Don't forget to set your clocks back. What a treat to get the extra hour of sleep.

Spotlight on Teaching and Learning

Here are just a couple of the amazing things that happened in FSD145 this week:

- In science, remote learning 6th graders completed a project-based learning unit by making videos for fourth grade students on how the eye uses light to process information.
- Center Elementary School held its first ever First Responders Celebration on October 28th. Featuring music and guest speakers, this virtual concert was posted on the school and District's Facebook page and can be viewed here: <https://fb.watch/1qEpEQSbZz/>
- Lincoln Douglas Elementary School hosted their Family Reading Night on October 29th. The school followed all the safety protocols that were put in place by the district. The feedback from parents who attended was positive. The food truck was enjoyed by all who attended. Students went home with a book.
- ISBE released the [FSD145 School Report Card](#) today. Due to the school closures in the Spring of 2019, all our schools are maintaining their school designation from the prior school year.

Metrics not included:

Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR), SAT, Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment (DLM-AA), Illinois Science Assessment (ISA), Growth Percentile IAR, Assessment Participation Rate, Assessment Performance Scatterplots, Achievement Gap, Climate Survey (5 Essentials, AdvanceED, CSCI)

Calculated with Concerns due to the suspension of in-person instruction during the 2019-20 school year that may have affected the results.

Chronic Absenteeism, Chronic Truancy, Dropout Rate, Early College Coursework (9-12), Freshman On-Track, Graduation Rate (4, 5, 6 year cohorts), Number of School Days, Student Attendance, Student Mobility, Teacher Attendance, Teacher Evaluation

Caution Statewide Threshold (Margin of Error)

8th grade Graders Passing Algebra, Average Days of PE per week, Career and Technical Education Enrollment (CTE)

New Metrics in 2020

Illinois Youth Survey (ISY) Participation: administered biennially since 1990. Is a self-reported survey designed to weather information about a variety of health and social indicators including substance use patterns and attitudes of Illinois youth. (8th, 10th, 12th grade)

Gifted: Number of students assessed for giftedness, identified as gifted, students assessed for giftedness taught by Gifted-endorsed teacher, District gifted assessment and Academic Program Policy.

Early Learning: KIDS (Kindergarten Individual Development Survey) - an observational assessment tool designed to help understand the developmental readiness of children entering kindergarten. Observations are collected within the first 40 days of school from the three development areas. SE development, language and literary, and math. ISBE is taking the COVID-19 situation into account and working to extend the regular 40-day observation and reporting window to June 30, 2021. This will allow teachers extra time to observe students on the 14 required measures.

Appropriate Use of Technology - Important Reminder

As more students are learning remotely, it is a good time to remind families of the [“Agreement for the Appropriate Use of District Issued Technology Equipment”](#) that was signed by parents and students when Chromebooks were issued. Please keep in mind that district Chromebooks run through school district filtering, regardless if they are on home or community wi-fi. Inappropriate use of a FSD145 district device sends an alert to our tech department and may result in having the device taken away or in a disciplinary action for the student. Please remind your student(s) that they should never search for inappropriate content or in any way use their Chromebook that is not considered appropriate for school.

WEEKLY REMINDERS

Grab and Go Drop Off Meals—Remote Only (Including all students in FMS and FHS)

Our District has gone the extra step of providing meal drop off through our transportation department on Saturdays as well as pick up at FHS. However, if a family misses two meal drop offs and fails to come pick up their missed meals from us, we will stop delivery to the residence. Families can sign up again as needed. Please understand that these guidelines are put into place to avoid wasting meals.

TECHNOLOGY

Tech Support

Please reach out to the FSD145 Tech Team at 815-232-0569 if the issue is related to general login, passwords, or non-functional technology.

Common Tech Quick Fixes

Please visit [this LINK](#) to review videos and written instructions for fixing common technical issues from home.

Schoology for Guardians

Access to Schoology for parents was emailed. If you missed the email, you can create an account on your own using the email address you registered your student with. For parents with existing accounts, following the forgot password process described on our website should reset the parent’s Schoology password.

<https://www.fsd145.org/Page/2116>

Sponsored Internet Opportunity

Freeport School District has partnered with [Comcast to provide Sponsored Internet to families in need](#). Qualifying families can receive a promo code from FSD145 Technology Department that allows them to sign up for Comcast Internet Essentials and have Freeport School District pay for their service. Contact information is provided on the last page.

Feedback & Questions

If you have missed our weekly communications to families, you can read them here. [Weekly Community Communications](#). Please call your student(s)'s schools with any questions or concerns.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Please reach out to us with any questions.

Dr. Anna Alvarado
Superintendent of Schools

**GRAB-N-GO MEAL ORDERING & PICK-UP
FOR A/B STUDENTS (7-12) AND REMOTE LEARNERS**

<p>GROUP A (Monday & Thursday) Grades 7-12</p>	<p>GROUP B (Tuesday & Friday) Grades 7-12</p>	<p>REMOTE LEARNING BY CHOICE (5 days/week) Pre-K- 12</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will receive meals for Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday ● 3 Breakfast and 3 Lunches ● Saturday Morning Pick up from 9:00 AM – Noon ● The next Saturday pick- up for Grab and Go is on October 31. ● Location: FHS / on Empire St. Entrance Door O 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will receive meals for Monday, Wednesday and Thursday ● 3 Breakfast and 3 Lunches ● Saturday Morning Pick up from 9:00 AM – Noon ● The next Saturday pick- up for Grab and Go is on October 31. ● Location: FHS / on Empire St. Entrance Door O 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will receive meals for 5 days. ● 5 Breakfasts and 5 Lunches ● Meal pick up once a week on Saturdays at FHS from 9 AM- noon ● Parents who cannot pick up meals will have the option of having meals delivered to them by the Transportation Dept. on Saturday mornings. ● To utilize our meal delivery service, during registration for remote learning you will need to indicate the need for drop-off. ● If you are not signed up and are now unable to pick up meals on Saturday you may sign up for delivery by contacting Transportation at 815-232-0580. A week's advance notice is required before your first delivery will be scheduled. ● NDS staff members will ride the bus with the driver to pass meals out and complete proper meal counting. ● October 31, is the next pick up or drop off day for meals: Pick-up Location: FHS / on Empire St. Entrance Door O ● If you signed up for food drop off, please make sure someone is home to receive the meals. ● If your student is returning back to school and will not be remote learning anymore, meals will not be delivered or passed out to your student on Saturday.

Procedures for Meal Pick Up on Saturdays

Families will enter into FHS staff parking (by practice football field) park in a parking spot, pop their trunk open, place a mask on their face and wait for a NDS staff member to approach their vehicle. NDS staff will then approach the vehicle with a mask on and ask the following questions:

1. What school(s) is (are) your student(s) enrolled?
2. If they answer FMS or FHS, we will verify which group they are in. Group A or Group B.
3. Number of students will be verified, an NDS staff member will radio the kitchen with the quantity needed for both breakfast and lunch with a parking spot number.
4. NDS kitchen staff members will bring out complete reimbursable meals, place it into the car trunk and close it.
5. Meal counting will take place as we verify student information, a Surface tablet will be used for our mobile point of sale meeting ISBE requirements.

INTERNET ESSENTIALS



Internet access has become a much needed service over the last few months and will continue to be into the future.

FSD families may qualify for District sponsored internet service. To determine eligibility and sign-up, please contact our Technology Department at
(815) 232-0569