

## Letter for Higgins Center and North Campus

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Dear Parents and Students:

The first day of school remains Thursday, August 13. Based on the current increase of COVID-19 cases in our region, District 211 will begin with *all students connecting remotely to their classes* on Thursday, August 13. We will continue to connect remotely throughout the school year until the health trend of our region indicates a consistent decrease in COVID-19 cases.

Once COVID-19 case rates consistently decline in our region, we will begin to allow small, controlled numbers of students to enter the school building in academic support settings. There is no requirement for students to be in-person. A parent may choose to keep their child home and connecting remotely to the school. When these in-person opportunities arise over the months, they will be communicated directly to parents and students.

Our goal is to provide the best educational opportunities in a safe environment. This includes implementing the guidelines put in place by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). Now, more than ever, the partnership between the student, parent and school is vital and the following suggestions may be helpful for families at this time:

- Make a family plan based on students learning remotely from home.
- Set a consistent family expectation that students are participating in class every day for the four periods they have each day and that they are completing any daily homework.
- Students connect to class via their District 211-issued iPad. If you do not have a District 211-issued iPad, it is not working properly or you need assistance with obtaining an Internet connection, contact your school now so we can help.
- Please continue to practice the safety protocols that are required of students when our schools are ready to open, including wearing a mask, practicing social distancing, frequently cleaning hands and not leaving home when feeling ill.

As the school year begins, even though it is different, you will hear of creative ideas the staff is implementing to keep students accelerating in their courses, fed,

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participating in athletics and activities, and getting extra help through academic support and counseling services. Our staff is excited to connect with their students beginning August 13. Please continue to stay connected with us, as a strong partnership between the home and school is needed for every student. Continue to visit the District 211 [Back to School August 2020](#) webpage to find all communications, including updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). Remember, students are expected to be connected every day during every class. Future communications will explain to parents how to see their child's specific classes, use Infinite Campus to check "attendance" and grades, rely on Schoology to see daily student expectations, understand how the curriculum is prioritized and how students schedule remote academic support after class.

We look forward to welcoming our students in person at some point in the future, but until then, we will welcome our students via the Zoom screen! Again, thank you in advance for your partnership in having an open and patient mindset as we begin the school year.

Sincerely,

Lisa Small  
Superintendent

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