



Administrative Center · 602 Center Parkway · Yorkville, Illinois 60560 · 630-553-4382 · y115.org

November 12, 2020

Yorkville CUSD 115 Families,

Good afternoon. I am writing to inform you that I am instituting a two-day school schedule change for November 23 and 24.

November 23

- All students will attend school remotely (students learn “synchronously” through teacher-led virtual instruction).
- District buildings will be closed to students/visitors in order to undergo extensive cleaning with limited employees on-site.

November 24

- All students will attend school remotely (students learn “asynchronously” by completing learning activities/assignments on their own schedule).
- District buildings will be closed.

This information is being shared with district families now to give parents an appropriate amount of time to make any needed schedule adjustments for their children. Specifics regarding the learning schedule and attendance for those two days will be sent to parents on Wednesday, November 18 by the building principals and learning schedules will be posted to the district website at <https://www.y115.org/domain/2915>.

By making this schedule change just prior to Thanksgiving break, we will be able to accomplish the following:

- Students and employees can proactively isolate and complete quarantines for a total of nine consecutive days (Nov. 21-29).
- Unoccupied district facilities will be deep cleaned extensively and air filters assessed/changed.
- Supplies will be inventoried and restocked.

As I have shared before, District 115 works closely with the Kendall County Health Department (KCHD) to monitor regional, county, and local/school cases and indicators. KCHD assists in determining the level and type of transmission in the schools and community, and in conformity with the Illinois State Board

of Education/Illinois Department of Public Health. To date, the district has a positive case percentage of approximately 1.8% for students and 2.7% for employees with no known outbreaks (defined by IDPH as five or more cases in one classroom).

Over this past week, I enjoyed visiting classrooms throughout the district and engaging in candid conversations with students and employees about their current learning experiences. Additionally, parents and community members continue to provide feedback on the current state of our instructional models and education within a pandemic. The common themes include the hard work that all of our employees continue to do on behalf of students and each other, varying levels of anxiety and comfort, the difficulty in understanding the state's frequently changing health guidelines/procedures, and a general appreciation for having the opportunity for on-site instruction. This is why we have worked so hard as a district to offer families a choice of on-site, hybrid, and e-learning instruction. This flexibility allows any parent who is uncomfortable with his/her child attending school on-site to speak with the child's building principal about a permanent transition into e-learning.

However, as hard as we work to maintain these three options for our families, the actions of those in our region, county, and district community will dictate how long we can accommodate hybrid and on-site learners. Recently, our percentage/positivity numbers have grown in Region 2 and in the county. Discussions between school administration and the health department occur daily to determine if increased community transmission or outbreaks warrant the schools to move to full e-learning or the need to implement other strategies to further mitigate transmission.

I ask that you please contribute to the health and safety of the community by limiting your exposure to the coronavirus so we can continue to support the physical and social-emotional health of students and employees.

Sincerely,
Dr. Timothy Shimp
Superintendent of Schools