



1200 E. Fairmount Avenue Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

P: 414-963-3921 F: 414-963-3959

www.wfbschools.com

November 12, 2020

Dear Whitefish Bay School Community,

This letter is to notify you of three important communications.

One - Cumberland Elementary School will continue in the full virtual instructional model for the week of November 16-20 due to an ongoing number of quarantines of school staff. At this point in time, we do not have sufficient staffing to continue effective in-person learning operations at Cumberland.

As difficult as these transitions may be, the District is committed to continuing learning temporarily in our full virtual modality. Engaging in the virtual modality this week will maximize the health and safety of our students and staff, and stabilize school operations. All Cumberland staff should report to school to deliver virtual learning, unless you are under health department quarantine. Further direction to students and staff will come from your principal in the near future. Thank you for your flexibility and understanding during this transition.

Two - At this point in time, all in-person learning for students and staff at **Richards Elementary, WFB Middle School and WFB High School** will continue in the blended model schedule for the week of November 16-20 as indicated below:

- Mon, Nov. 16 - Cohort A In Person Learning
- Tue, Nov. 17 - Cohort A In Person Learning
- Wed, Nov. 18 - Asynchronous Learning for all students
- Thurs, Nov. 19 - Cohort B In Person Learning
- Fri, Nov. 20 - Cohort B In Person Learning

Three - Special Meeting Announcement - At the Regular School Board meeting on November 11, 2020, the School Board requested a special meeting to **consider board action regarding transitioning to temporary virtual learning for all schools** based upon worsening COVID-19 trends, and the recommendations of the Community Health Advisory Committee. A special meeting is scheduled and posted for Friday, November 13th at 6 p.m. Here is the [link to the meeting](#).

Should there be a Board decision to shift all schools to virtual learning, we will notify you as soon as possible.

Respectfully,

Dr. John W. Thomsen - Superintendent of Schools



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We continue to strongly encourage all school community members to observe the safety mitigation practices that have allowed the District to sustain most in-person learning and school activities to date. Community transmission is at critical levels in the North Shore, county and state. School community members must continue to make decisions that maximize consistent and correct risk mitigation both inside and outside school. Of greatest importance are to avoid non-essential close contact with non-household members, to avoid non-essential travel, to wear masks, and to practice physical distancing, both indoors and outdoors.

Be reminded it is essential that students and staff stay home if they feel ill; wash hands often, continue to wear a mask; and be mindful of your physical distance. These strategies will allow the District to maintain an in-person modality option as much as possible throughout the pandemic. Please see a practical and regularly-updated [COVID risk calculator](#) and decision-making app and the [DHS-designed decision guide](#) as references.

About COVID-19 -- COVID-19 is an illness caused by a new coronavirus. It spreads from person to person through droplets created when we cough, sneeze, talk, sing or laugh. Most people—especially young people—who get COVID-19 have mild illness, similar to having a cold or the flu. However, in others it can cause severe illness, such as pneumonia. Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Fever (temperature 100.4°F or higher)
- Cough
- Trouble breathing
- Chills
- Muscle/body aches
- Loss of sense of taste or smell
- Runny nose or nasal congestion
- Fatigue
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea

The CDC's website has good information about COVID-19: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

Prevent Further Spread -- The following guidelines will help to prevent further spread of illness at our school:

- Notify the school if your child is diagnosed with COVID-19.
- Notify the school if your child had contact with someone who you know was diagnosed with COVID-19.
- Keep students home from school if they are sick.
- Encourage good habits: frequent handwashing, covering coughs and sneezes, use of mask or face coverings in public, and staying home as much as possible.
- Continue to encourage your child to practice consistent mask wearing, physical distancing, and hand hygiene at school

For more information on COVID-19, visit the [District COVID-19 FAQ page](#) or the [District COVID -19 Safety & Communications page](#).