



Sunday, March 15, 2020

Dear Central 301 Staff and Families,

I appreciate your patience and flexibility in these extraordinary times. At this time there are only three confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Kane County and no confirmed cases in Central 301. The Governor closing all schools across Illinois has created a unique situation and school districts are working with numerous agencies for help in keeping everyone safe and providing educational opportunities for our students during the closure period. This also means working together to develop processes for providing educational benefit to our students in manageable ways that all students can access. I appreciate all of the Central 301 staff working together to accomplish this. Training to deliver remote educational opportunities and/or resources will occur with teaching staff on Monday in an effort to help everyone collaborate in their work over the time that our schools are closed.

We received additional guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and the Governor's office. The state has provided districts flexibility to use an Institute Day on Monday for the staff training. Beginning on Tuesday, the "Act of God" days will go into effect. The state has determined that these dates are not counted as instructional days but have encouraged districts to offer educational resources to families to the fullest extent possible. The Governor's office and ISBE will be meeting with the Illinois Federation of Teachers and the Illinois Education Association to determine joint guidance on this unprecedented situation next week. They will be clarifying numerous questions and concerns on how resources and remote educational opportunities can be shared with families and students during this closure. According to ISBE, the state is not requiring staff to provide remote educational opportunities at this time, but we expect to receive further guidance in the coming days. We will work with our staff on Monday to equip them with the tools needed to share educational resources with students. Please find the resources provided by ISBE in the event families are looking for resources to continue further learning: www.isbe.net/keeplearning.

Information was emailed to families that qualify for free or reduced lunch so that we can provide sack lunches to families as needed beginning on Tuesday, March 17th. At this time, administrative teams will work with the Director of Food Services to determine the process in preparing these lunches.

I request that our staff monitor their own health. If staff members have a fever, dry cough or other flu-like symptoms, they should report the sickness and use a sick or personal day on Monday.

Again, we appreciate your patience as we navigate through this unprecedented situation. We will continue to keep you informed as new information becomes available from the state.