



April 17, 2020

Dear Central 301 Families,

I hope this email finds your family healthy and safe. First, let me begin by saying that I apologize for the length of this message; however, there is essential communication that is necessary at this time. While there are indications that Illinois is flattening the curve (measured by the length of time it takes to double the infection rate) the state continues to have numerous new cases of COVID-19. Due to the recommendations on “Reopening America” issued from the White House on Thursday, and the Governor's collaboration regarding reopening the State with six surrounding state governors, **he has announced that he is extending the school closure period through the end of the school year.**

The District 301 Remote Learning Plan is in place and the overall community feedback from our recent survey has been positive. You can access the Remote Learning Plan information by visiting our website. The remote learning button on our website will provide you with details about the plan, as well as with frequently asked questions (“FAQs”), and social emotional support resources. Families and students can access our [Remote Learning Plan](#) and a [Parents FAQ](#) through these links and through the district [Remote Learning Button](#) on the website portal for continued updates.

### **Student Instruction**

Student remote instruction will continue Tuesday - Friday through the week of Friday May 8, 2020. Beginning on Monday, May 11, 2020 remote instruction will be provided Monday - Friday (May 11-15). Monday - Wednesday (May 18-20) will be utilized to complete and submit any assignments that may be due for the fourth quarter. Therefore, the last day of student instruction will be on Friday, May 15, 2020 and the last day of the school year will be on Wednesday, May 20, 2020. Please note, seniors will be expected to participate and complete work assigned through remote learning through Friday, May 15, 2020.

### **End of Year Events**

We understand the importance of end of year events. Please note that the graduation ceremony for May 14 is currently cancelled. Alternative dates have been secured for Central High School Graduation. These dates are currently being held: Sunday, June 14, 2020 at 3:00 pm OR Sunday, July 19, 2020 at 3:00 pm. Our high school administration has worked with Pinstripes to obtain “holds” on dates for Prom in the event we are able to hold large gatherings at a later date. Four dates have currently been held: Friday, June 19, Saturday, June 20, Friday, July 17 or Saturday, July 18. We recognize that these two events are extremely important to our seniors and we want to do our best to provide this experience for them. All dates are pending the order by the Governor and will be based on the “large gathering” determinations that are developed when the stay-at-home orders are lifted.

### **Collection of Student/Staff Personal Possessions**

We will develop a plan for students, families and staff to gather personal possessions from the



schools upon the stay-at-home order being lifted and communication relevant to “large gathering” parameters being provided by the State. We will share these details in a future email.

### **Summer School**

The district is in the process of planning summer school sessions for students who need to complete their incomplete school work in the event the stay-at-home order is lifted. Any student with a majority of incomplete assignments from remote learning will be required to participate in the summer school session.

If the stay-at-home order is not lifted, a plan is being developed to have students who need to complete their incomplete school work for the fourth quarter attend a mandatory after school program in the fall of 2020 to ensure they have the necessary skill sets needed for success. Transportation will be provided for these mandatory after school sessions.

On April 24, 2020, we will be compiling lists of students who are not completing work and reaching out to both the students and parents to let them know they are at risk of having to attend summer school and/or mandatory after school programming in the fall. Currently, we are aware that staff have been reaching out to these students; however, we want to make sure that we are reaching out to you as parents as well. It is essential that the students learn the skills for the fourth quarter to eliminate learning gaps as they move forward in their learning progression. Please note, if a student had a “D” or “F” at the end of the third quarter, it is essential that they are completing the work so that they are not at risk of having to repeat the coursework for the upcoming school year.

We are here to partner with our students and parents to provide additional resources and assistance so that all students can experience success during this “new normal” of remote learning. It is important to keep open communication in the event of extenuating circumstances so we can work on an individual plan to assist your student(s) and family.

### **Summer Athletic Camps**

The status of summer athletic camps are dependent upon the stay-at-home order being lifted and communication relevant to “large gathering” parameters being provided by the State. We will share these details in a future email.

We appreciate the feedback we are receiving from students and parents relevant to their experience with our approach to remote learning. I, for one, am eager to return to normal school life, but the safety of our community must be our first priority. We are Central, and we will continue to make the best out of these difficult times. The district will continue to serve as a resource to our families. I speak for the district when I say that we look forward to welcoming your children back to school as soon as possible, and until that time we will do our part to provide a meaningful remote learning experience.



Wishing you and yours continued health and safety.

In partnership,

Dr. Todd Stirn  
Superintendent