



THOMAS | GREENBRIER | IVY HILL | OLIVE | PATTON  
SOUTH | DRYDEN | WESTGATE | WINDSOR

October 23, 2020

Dear Arlington Heights School District 25 Staff and Families:

Thank you for continuing to support our students, staff, and families as we continue our transition to the hybrid model of instruction. It has been heart-warming to see students of all ages excited to be at school. It has been amazing to see teachers implementing lessons in a whole new way. AHSD25 is a wonderful community, and the collaboration among schools and families at this time is another example of why this is a great place to learn and work.

I have updates on a few different topics in this letter:

#### **Transition Advisory Committee Update**

At this week's meeting, the Transition Advisory Committee again discussed metrics to consider that would guide a move to full in-person learning. However, the committee was unable to agree upon metrics that they would recommend. Therefore, the Board of Education and I will discuss next steps at the Special Meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 29, 2020. I'd like to thank the committee members for their continued work on behalf of their neighbors, colleagues, and our students.

#### **Step 3 | Hybrid Learning Model - Data Update**

[www.sd25.org/StepMetrics](http://www.sd25.org/StepMetrics)

[Northwestern University, Illinois COVID Data by Zip Code](#)

District 25 used Northwestern's *new cases (14-day) per 100,000 population* statistic as one data point to determine it was safe to move into the hybrid learning model we are currently in. The Harvard Global Institute (HGHI) risk level range was based on daily numbers, which we converted to a 7-day range. Northwestern has since changed the way they calculate the 14-day data. It was a 2 week average and is now a 14-day converted total count to align with the CDC guidance. The Transition Advisory Committee recommends using Northwestern's 7-day converted count so that we continue to compare "apples to apples" as we compare this data.

The metric range based on research from the Harvard Global Institute for Health has not changed and remains at 75-175 cases per 100,000 population for 7-days.

These metrics were used to determine when District 25 could move into the Hybrid environment. There are no specific metrics to determine if we should move back to a Remote environment. Instead, we would move back to a Remote environment if (1) mandated by the Governor or the Illinois Department of Public Health or (2) if our internal District 25 Covid19 cases and numbers of student/staff exclusions showed an increasing trend at a specific school or throughout the district.



As a visual demonstration, the chart below compares the different data resources we have taken into consideration to move into the Hybrid Model.

Harvard Global Health Institute (DAILY)	Harvard Global Health Institute (7-day)	Harvard Global Health Institute (14-day)	CDC Indicators (14-day)
>25			>200
10 - 25 cases	70 - 175 cases	140 - 350 cases	50 - 199 cases

The **orange highlight** indicates data used to move to the Step 3 | Hybrid Learning Plan utilizing the Harvard Global Health Institute research.

#### Our Current Numbers (as of Thursday, October 22)

7-day = 148.4

14-day = 240.6 (considered in the orange range for HGHI but in the red range for the CDC)

#### Frequently Asked Questions

Submit Here: [www.sd25.org/COVID19FAQSubmit](http://www.sd25.org/COVID19FAQSubmit)

We are working on a Frequently Asked Questions document for our community and will let you know when that is available. If you'd like to submit questions, to appear on that document, click the link above.

#### Board Meetings

There have been several board meetings added to the District 25 calendar since I last communicated with you. To stay up-to-date on the Board Meeting calendar, please visit [www.sd25.org/BOECalendar](http://www.sd25.org/BOECalendar).

The Board will hold a Special Open Session meeting on Monday, October 26 to discuss expected information from the Cook County Department of Public Health. Details on that are in the next section of this letter.

I will present an update to the Board on the Transition Model of Reopening at the Board Meeting next Thursday, October 29th. The Board will be presented with various options and will direct the District on what to pursue moving forward. A link to view this meeting will be posted on our website.

#### Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH)

We anticipate information from the Cook County Department of Public Health in the next few days. The Board of Education will meet on Monday, October 26 at 5:15 pm to review any information we may receive from the CCDPH. We will notify the community on any updates from this board meeting. In the meantime, we move forward with the current hybrid model.



**COVID-19 Rapid Test**

There are several types of rapid tests for COVID-19. In order to be cleared to return to school, a symptomatic student or staff member must present a negative RT-PCR COVID-19 test result or an alternative diagnosis from a doctor. Please check with your medical provider that the correct rapid test is being administered.

**Thank you**

Thank you for your continued support and for always reaching out, whether it be speaking at a board meeting or emailing me individually. I truly appreciate all suggestions, concerns, and words of support. We take all input to heart as we work together to do what's best for our students, our teachers & staff, and the Arlington Heights community.

Sincerely,

Lori Bein, Ed.D.  
Superintendent