



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

Thursday, December 30, 2021

Dear District 25 Families,

I hope that you are having an enjoyable holiday season and a relaxing and healthy winter break. I am looking forward to the return of teachers and staff on Monday, and the return of our students on Tuesday, January 4, 2022.

Our priority continues to be keeping our classrooms open to in-person learning while also maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment. Additionally, we will continue to host all extracurricular programs as we had before the break.

SHIELD testing will continue for those who are participating, and the weekly testing will follow the same schedule as we had prior to the break. You may enroll or unenroll in the SHIELD testing program by clicking on the links at the end of this letter. Additionally, we will continue to operate our Test to Stay program with the goal of keeping students who may have been exposed at school in class.

We will continue to closely follow required masking and social distancing protocols as well as exclusion procedures, when necessary. We are aware of the recently revised CDC guidelines recommending shortened periods of isolation or quarantine for those not experiencing symptoms and we are preparing to implement those new guidelines once we receive approval from the Illinois Department of Public Health.

We are all eager to return to a school environment without the impact of a pandemic. However, it is important for us to continue to be vigilant in keeping our students and staff safe. Please continue to partner with us by considering the following:

- Keep your child home if they exhibit any symptoms of illness. A short absence out of an abundance of caution is better than a longer exclusion period.
- Notify your school nurse if your child has any Covid-related symptoms.
- Remain flexible as there may be reasons a classroom or grade level or school needs to pivot to remote learning.
- Have some extra “check-in time” with your children to see how they are feeling. Help them talk about how school is going for them during this unusual time. Help them find time to do things they enjoy, and time to rest.



SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

As you care for your children and your family and friends, please remember to take time to care for yourself. Parenting can be difficult during the best of times, but it is the most important and most rewarding experience we can have. Enjoy your children as they continue to learn and grow. We look forward to having them back in school on January 4, 2022, where we can learn, grow, and laugh with them.

I hope you have a very healthy, safe, and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Lori D. Bein, Ed.D.
Superintendent

[Enroll my child into SHIELD testing.](#)

[Unenroll my child from SHIELD testing.](#)

[Para esta carta en español, haga clic aquí.](#)

[Aby otrzymać ten list w języku polskim, kliknij tutaj.](#)