



September 11, 2020

Dear Center Cass Parents and Guardians –

Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we work through our new schedule. You are probably wondering how things went today. We had a great day at Center Cass Schools today on-line and in-person! Below is a quick recap.

- All employees that were here on Thursday were here on Friday, so no increase in employee absences.
- Lakeview had 1 additional student absent today for in-person learning, as opposed to yesterday.
- Prairieview and Ide each had a few additional absences today, as compared to yesterday.
- In total between our three buildings, we sent two students home with a snuffle or a sneeze today (and their siblings who felt just fine as a precautionary measure), and that was all for students coming down to the office, aside from one student injury (less than a normal day).
- Nurse's office visits have been down this year. Everyone is focusing on maintaining good health.
- When I greeted car drop offs at PV and LV this morning, students were positive and confident.
- Students are settling into their new schedules. Principals report good progress.
- We also observed a moment of silence for the victims of 9/11 and appreciation of heroes.
- We will continue to monitor the situation and if anything changes you will be the first to know.

I want you to have an accurate picture of school on a daily basis, as well as how attendance looked after our first positive case. We respect each individual's perspective and choice on learning. Very proud of how each person has responded today. We continue to do extremely well from a health standpoint for an "in-person/remote" school learning model, hybrid if you will. We need to continue to watch our three W's (wear a mask, watch your distance and wash your hands) this weekend as a learning community so we can have a COVID -19 free September moving forward.

Please be advised, that the positive COVID-19 case rate in DuPage County is back up again. As IDPH and DCHD continue to analyze data, it appears that DuPage County will be moved to an orange, or "warning" level on the IDPH County COVID-19 Metrics reporting site. As you may recall, there are 8 different metrics and if a county exceeds the threshold in 2 or more metrics, they meet orange criteria. (<https://www.dph.illinois.gov/countymetrics?county=DuPage>). IDPH moved DuPage County to orange because of two factors, 1) The DuPage County case rate has exceeded the State's threshold of 50 new cases per 100,000 populations per week, now standing at 89 new cases per 100,000 populations for last week's activity, and 2) unfortunately, the deaths due to COVID-19 this past week also rose to 6 (from 4 the previous week). All of the other 6 metrics are within expected thresholds, including: Positivity Rate; Number of Tests Performed; COVID-19-Like ED visits; COVID-19 Hospital Admissions; Percentage of Cases tied to Clusters; and ICU Room Availability.

As shared in the past, we will look at all indicators and data from IDPH, DCHD, Community, and School. We will make educated decisions in a timely manner, and communicate with you if conditions worsen in any of the areas above.

Thank you for your partnership. We are all in this together. Be cautious. Be safe. Have a great weekend!

Educationally Yours –

Dr. Wise