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LANSING SCHOOL DISTRICT 158



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"Putting the Children First with a Commitment to Continuous Improvement"

January 5, 2022

ADAPTIVE PAUSE LETTER

Dear **#158Strong** Community,

As we begin the second half of the 2021-2022 school year, a resurgence of COVID-19 and specifically the new Omicron variant has caused numerous Illinois public school districts to temporarily transition to remote learning with approval from the local health department. This is referred to as an adaptive pause.

As of the date of this letter, over 7% of our staff have tested positive for COVID-19 and this number has been increasing on a daily basis. Approximately 25% of our students have also been called off due to illness, with many presenting cold-like symptoms reflective of Omicron. The local high school, Thornton Fractional South, has implemented an adaptive pause due to COVID-19 infections. For these reasons – in order to maintain the safety and instructional engagement of our children – Lansing School District 158 has received authorization from the Cook County Department of Public Health to implement an adaptive pause and transition all students home for e-Learning from Friday, January 7 through Friday, January 14.

This is a total of six (6) instructional days that will not need to be made-up at the end of the school year. All students will return to in-person learning on Tuesday, January 18. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and are committed to resuming in-person learning as soon as possible. An adaptive pause is an interim measure designed to keep students engaged in learning while COVID-19 infections subside. Our offices will remain open during this time and staff will be available in our buildings for communication and support. We will be implementing our E-Learning Day schedule during the adaptive pause, which provides live virtual instruction for students between 9:00 AM and 2:30 PM via Microsoft Teams and Zoom.

More specific information about daily e-Learning schedules will be provided by your child's school and teacher(s). Extracurricular activities that have been running virtually may continue to do so during the adaptive pause. In-person athletics and programs are temporarily cancelled if they cannot be transitioned to a virtual format. The District will be offering grab-and-go meals from the Coolidge Elementary School Kitchen 11:00 AM-2:00 PM each day during the adaptive pause. This will include both breakfast and lunch.

Thank you to our parents and families for your flexibility and keeping your children home these past few days if they have been ill. Please be on the lookout for additional information from your child's school. We will get through this together and wish our stakeholders health and safety as we move forward in 2022.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nathan S. Schilling, CSBO
Superintendent of Schools
Lansing School District 158