

Worth School District 127

DISTRICT OFFICE DR. ROSEMARY LUCAS ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER 11218 SOUTH RIDGELAND WORTH, IL 60482

Friday, August 6, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I hope this letter finds you enjoying the warm sunny days of August with friends and family. The Worth 127 staff is eagerly anticipating the return of **all students IN-PERSON** on **August 18, 2021**.

On Wednesday, August 4, Governor J.B. Pritzker issued an executive order requiring that masks must be worn indoors, regardless of vaccination status, by all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to P-12 schools and on school buses. Additionally, athletes participating in indoor sports will be required to wear masks during indoor practices and competitions. ***This mandate is an executive order made pursuant to a disaster proclamation and is not subject to the board nor administration discretion.***

Instead of mere “guidance” on best practices that can be interpreted by each community, COVID-19 Executive Order No. 85 has been mandated by the governor as such:

Section 1: School Mitigation Measures. All public and non-public schools in Illinois serving pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students ***must follow*** the joint guidance issued by ISBE and IDPH and take proactive measures to ensure the safety of students, staff, and visitors, *including*, but not limited to:

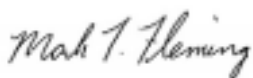
a. **Requiring the indoor use of face coverings by students, staff, and visitors who are over age two and able to medically tolerate a face covering, regardless of vaccination status, consistent with CDC guidance;** and,

b. Implementing other layered prevention strategies (such as physical distancing, screening testing, ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, advising individuals to stay home when sick and get tested, contact tracing in combination with appropriate quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection) to the greatest extent possible and taking into consideration factors such as community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks, consistent with CDC guidance.

If you would like to read all of the Governor’s Executive Order, please visit the following link: <https://www.illinois.gov/government/executive-orders/executive-order.executive-order-number-18.2021.html>

Please continue to check your email for more information regarding the start of the school year. Thank you for your overwhelming support throughout this challenging process.

Sincerely,



Dr. Mark T. Fleming
Superintendent