



# COOK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 130

## *Office of the Superintendent*

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March 23, 2020

Dear Families of Cook County School District 130,

On Friday, March 20, 2020, the Governor announced that all Illinois public schools will be closed until at least April 7, 2020. For now, we will utilize the remaining day of the original e-Learning plan upon our return from spring vacation on March 30, 2020. In addition, the District will begin refining our e-Learning plan for additional e-Learning/Act of God days.

As we look ahead to add opportunities for learning at home, we will ask our teachers to transition to Remote Instructional Days and communicate in a more personal manner with their students. It has always been our intention to do more interactive learning experiences that involve more direct contact with our teachers if the schools were closed for an extended period.

I anticipate that we will most likely be designing lessons and activities utilizing Google Classroom that may include more personalized video chats and video lessons. As this platform for teaching and learning is new to some of our teaching staff and students alike, we appreciate your patience and understanding as we learn together over the coming days. Certainly, we hope that the activities provided are engaging and meaningful. However, if you find the need to supplement or alter daily at-home learning experiences, we encourage you to do so.

In our planning efforts, we are also exploring means of supporting our families' technology needs. We have posted a survey on our website and are examining the responses. Given the "shelter in place" executive order, our goal is to consider alternative options for supporting the technology capabilities of our families. I want to clearly communicate that at the forefront of our planning efforts is the health and safety of our entire learning community. Please visit our website at [www.district130.org](http://www.district130.org) for any additional updates.

These times are unprecedented, but I know that by working together we will triumph as a group. In addition, I will continue to keep you updated on new information from the Illinois State Board of Education as well as the impact of any future directives from the Governor. I applaud our parents for their participation in our current e-Learning. I am so appreciative of your partnership.

I will end with reiterating my thoughts from before – we want to support our students by providing meaningful lessons that enhance their skills. We understand the pressures that so many households are facing during these times and are thinking of you. We hope to find a good balance between learning and family needs. As always, please let us know if we can be of assistance. Although this is not a traditional spring vacation, I hope you are able to relax and enjoy this time. Once spring break concludes, please resume contacting your child's teacher via email should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Colleen M. McKay*

Colleen M. McKay, Ed.D.  
Superintendent