

Plainfield Community Consolidated School District 202

We prepare learners for the future.



Administrative Center

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January 4, 2022

District 202 Families and Staff,

I wanted to update you regarding our return to school for the second semester of the 2021-22 school year.

The Centers for Disease Controls (CDC) has issued new guidance for the general public to reduce the exclusion time frame for COVID cases and persons exposed to cases. However, as of now, it does not apply to schools in Illinois according to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

We may receive clarification this week on what the new CDC recommendations mean for schools. For now, we continue to follow the same protocols for positive cases or close contacts that were in place last semester. If additional guidance is issued, we will communicate that information as quickly as possible.

We ask for and strongly encourage your continued patience, cooperation, and support as we come back to in person learning this week. We all know that COVID numbers are elevated in Will or Kendall County and throughout Illinois, however, we continue to believe we can mitigate issues at school if we all cooperatively work together.

As we have said repeatedly this year, we are committed to safely remaining in person, and keeping our schooling and extra-curricular activities as close to normal for students as possible (consistent with state and Federal guidance).

With that in mind, we need parents to keep children exhibiting COVID symptoms at home. Please do not send them to school. Please carefully review our [School Health, Safety, and COVID-19 Information](#) on the District 202 website.

The best way to remain in person and avoid exclusion is to have a high percentage of eligible students as well as teachers and staff get fully vaccinated and boosted. I understand and respect everyone's right to choose what is best for you or your student. Still, the regulations we need to follow encourage vaccination and boosters for students and staff when eligible.

Anger about the regulations we must follow is both misdirected and counterproductive. Please be respectful to our support staff, teachers, principals, and nurses as they continue to navigate protocols for safety of students/staff, constant IDPH guidance changes and updates, and changing COVID metrics.

In addition to COVID-related shortages of staff and substitutes of teachers, paraprofessionals, custodians, and transportation (which also continue to threaten in-person learning), it is also the middle

of winter, when we may need to use “snow or emergency day(s)” or remote learning day(s). These situations require preparedness. Students and staff should have their laptops and other important learning materials with them and ready at all times.

This month will probably be a bumpy ride. While the number of COVID cases and resulting increased staffing shortages are of great concern, we have been able to begin and hope to continue second semester in person. We will continue to communicate as we carefully monitor COVID cases and related metrics in our buildings.

Thank you for your continued patience, cooperation, and support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lane Abrell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Lane Abrell
Superintendent of Schools