September 4, 2020

Dear Kahok Family:

As we prepare to welcome back students for in-person instruction on a Hybrid/Blended schedule as well as continue to teach students remotely, we want to provide a quick update and recognize the efforts of our entire Unit 10 Family.

**Health Screening/Expectations:**
Our District continues to monitor guidelines from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Madison County Health Department, St. Clair County Health Department and Center for Disease Control (CDC).

In accordance with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) requirements, students must be screened each day for COVID-19 symptoms and other criteria prior to entering a school building or entering a school bus. Parents who are sending their child(ren) to school next week on the Hybrid/Blended schedule, should conduct a daily [Self-Certification Check](#) prior to sending their child(ren) to school. If your child does not meet all the criteria, you must keep your child at home and notify the school of your child’s absence.

Your child will not be permitted to return to school until he/she meets all return-to-school criteria or your child’s physician has released your child to return to school, whichever is applicable. If your child is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, you should consult your healthcare provider for a diagnosis and treatment. By sending your child to school, you are certifying you have screened your child and he/she meets all the following criteria to attend school.

**Classroom Expectations:**
During our Hybrid/Blended and Remote Learning experiences, please remember that students must follow the classroom expectations set by the District and the State of Illinois in order to be counted as present and earn grades.

Parents should assure the continued participation of their child in provided instruction and curriculum via remote learning through the school district. During Remote Learning, students must attend virtual (i.e. Google Meets) sessions, participate in virtual (i.e. Google Classroom) assignments and schedule individual meetings and conferences with their teacher(s).

If a family would like to transition their child(ren) to in-person instruction they must put that request in writing to the building principal of the school their child(ren) attends prior to the end of the grading period in which they have committed to remote learning.

As classrooms have incorporated digital instruction in today’s classroom setting, our staff will continue to work with students regarding expectations of the virtual classroom. Please note that technological devices
should not be used to invade the privacy of any student or staff member, to violate the rights of any student or staff member, or to harass any student or staff member. Electronic devices should never be used in any manner that disrupts the educational environment, violates student conduct rules or violates the rights of others.

During the days ahead, we ask each family to discuss technology etiquette with your child(ren). If you are aware of any issues with technology, if you or your child are in need of any assistance regarding internet connectivity, or have questions about logging into virtual classrooms or accessing your Skyward Family Access Account we encourage you to reach out to your child’s teacher or the respective school principal.

In addition, please remember that Federal and State law governs the protection of student data, including school student records and/or covered information. Protecting such information is important for legal compliance, District operations, and maintaining the trust of District stakeholders, including parents, students and staff. These school student records are confidential and protected from release other than as provided by law. As such, any video and/or audio recordings of Remote classes and Google meetings should not be shared on social media (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, etc.).

**Working Together Toward a Common Goal:**
We are proud of the efforts of so many to prepare students for the balances of in-person and remote learning:

- First Student Bus Company has been working tirelessly to ready bus routes for students preparing to return to classes in school.
- Sodexo Food Service staff have been preparing and distributing meals since the first day of school.
- The Unit 10 custodial staff have undergone extensive training regarding disinfecting protocols and are committed to keeping our classrooms and buildings safe.
- Classroom teachers, program assistants, support staff and administrators have been engaging students virtually during our exclusive Remote Learning plan and are excited to see many of our students return in person in our Hybrid/Blended Learning plan next week.
- And kudos to our Health department who has been instrumental in providing information to our staff regarding updated health guidelines for schools.

This has been a true team effort, and we are so proud of our Kahok Family.

We also want to thank all of our families for working with our District during an historic time for schools in our country. We know this time hasn’t been easy, but are proud of the efforts of the entire Unit 10 community in working together for the education of children. Thank you to all parents and guardians for your partnership with Unit 10 faculty and staff this fall. We appreciate you. As always, if you have any questions regarding your child(ren)’s education, please reach out to your child’s teacher and/or school principal.

Yours in education,

*Bradley Hyre*

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