



School District of Hilbert

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Invest, Interact, Inspire... Every Child, Every Day!

October 5, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am writing this letter as a follow-up to the Public Health Emergency Alert for COVID-19 issued by the Calumet County Health Department on Friday, October 2. I have been in contact with the Calumet County Health Department on a weekly basis for the last several months regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic. They have been supportive of the School District of Hilbert's effort to open schools on September 1 and remain open as we speak today. They believe that what we are doing in schools to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 is working and support our efforts to stay with an in-person format to deliver our educational curriculum.

With that being said, we need your help to keep our students in school. As a community, if we cannot do the following, we will be left with no decision other than to close schools for a period of time to help slow the transmission of this virus. The Calumet County Health Department is seeing very high levels of COVID-19 cases, which are resulting in increased COVID-19 related hospitalizations and deaths. Public health officers in Calumet County and surrounding counties have issued a **Public Health Emergency COVID-19 Alert**. Due to escalation in cases, public health is not able to notify positive cases and their close contacts in a timely manner. This severely limits efforts to contain the virus. Hospitals are enacting emergency plans. Public health implores everyone to take actions to stop uncontrolled community spread.

Take Action Now - Stop the Spread

1. Physically distance at least 6 feet from people with whom you do not live.
2. Wear a cloth facemask, unless unable to wear one for medical reasons.
3. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
4. Indoors, do not gather with people outside of your household.
5. Outdoors, limit gatherings to 10 people or fewer, physically distance and wear face coverings.
6. Self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days after return from travel.
7. If symptomatic, call your health care provider, get a test, and stay home while awaiting results.
8. Cooperate with public health officials if you have tested positive or are a close contact.

Our students and staff have been great at school working through all of the necessary protocol to keep everyone safe, so we are asking that you do your part to help turn this around. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at school at sweetet@hilbertk12.org or 920-853-3558.

Anthony Sweere
District Administrator