



October 8, 2020

Dear East Aurora Families,

I'm writing with an important update regarding a delay in our return to in-person school attendance.

Parents, grandparents, and guardians: I commend for all you are doing to run your household, work, and help your child succeed in remote learning. I have heard first-hand about your trials and frustrations, but also of your joys and success stories during this unprecedented time in our world and in public education.

Due to the prevailing high number of COVID-19 cases in our area, **all East Aurora School District 131 schools will continue with full remote learning for the second quarter of the school year.** This means that our plan to begin hybrid instruction will be delayed until January, 2021. (See the attached schedule, which includes a tentative timetable for hybrid instruction in January.)

As I told the Board of Education, sharing this news with you is heartbreaking. I know full well our students learn best in the classroom, and receive countless benefits from being in school each day. However, the safety of our students, staff, and families is always our greatest priority.

COVID-19 has significantly impacted our community. For those living in 60505, the 7-day positivity rate has consistently measured 2-3 times the state average. And in the City of Aurora, 47% of all COVID cases are from 60505.

The results of our parent survey indicate that close to 70% of families wish to continue remote learning.

If there is any consolation, I am very encouraged by our overall student participation in remote learning, and the high level of engagement on our learning platforms at each grade level.

I am also extremely grateful to our talented teaching staff. Their creativity, flexibility, and ability to learn new skills to further integrate technology with instruction have made a difference.

During remote learning, student **meal distributions** at school sites and bus stops will continue, as well as our partnership program with Fox Valley Park District's e-CARE program.

We will also be **distributing supply kits** filled with items to enhance remote learning, to all EASD 131 students in grades K through 12. Drive-through distribution will take place October 20-22. Your school will reach out to you with specific dates and times.

We will continue to monitor the number of COVID-19 cases in our zip code. Should numbers look more promising later this fall, we will certainly explore an earlier return, and will let you know in advance. For now, however, we must do our share as a district to limit the spread in our area.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jennifer Norrell, Superintendent
East Aurora School District 131



Hybrid instruction schedule

A/B Groups, Monday through Thursday

Week of January 4	EA Staff	<i>Professional learning and classroom prep</i>
Week of January 11	Kindergarten	
Week of January 19	Preschool	
Week of January 19	Grades 1-5	
Week of January 25	Grades 6-8	
Week of January 25	Grades 9-12	

Horario de instrucción híbrido

Grupos A/B, de lunes a jueves

Semana del 4 de enero	Personal de EA	<i>Aprendizaje profesional y preparación en el aula</i>
Semana del 11 de enero	Kinder	
Semana del 19 de enero	Preescolar	
Semana del 19 de enero	Grados 1-5	
Semana del 25 de enero	Grados 6-8	
Semana del 25 de enero	Grados 9-12	