

Oct. 30, 2020



Good afternoon families,

With nearly two months of the school year in the books and November quickly approaching, we wanted to share with you some important information about the second semester and what families can expect as we continue to navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic.

As early as next week, all of our families will be given an opportunity to provide feedback on the current learning models - both virtual and in-person - and safety precautions currently in place. The brief survey will help us both make adjustments for the remainder of the first semester and make any necessary changes for the second semester.

In early December, families will be asked to once again share with us their child(ren)'s preferred learning model for the second semester. The SDNB will once again be offering both a full, five-day in-person model and a full virtual model. Specifically, we will be asking families that want to switch their child(ren)'s current learning model to a new model (for example, from virtual to in-person, or vice versa) to share that information with us. The December family commitment information will help us prepare our staffing needs for both our virtual and in-person learning options.

As families begin to consider their decision for the second semester, it is important that we provide an update regarding mask-wearing in our buildings. As you may know, the state's mask mandate is set to expire Nov. 21, and whether it is extended remains to be seen. As of today, as a means to continue to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and in an effort to keep our schools open, the SDNB plans to continue the mask-wearing requirement through the first semester and most likely into the second semester as well. The decision, made by the Pandemic Response Team, comes after having conversations with the Waukesha County Health Department and other county school districts; after taking into consideration our current mitigation efforts; and after reviewing our student/staff COVID-19 case/quarantine data and staff feedback.

And finally, with Halloween this weekend, the Waukesha County Health and Human Services Department has [information and recommendations regarding trick-or-treating](#) and other related events and gatherings. As we work together to "Stay Safe to Stay Open", please consider the County's suggestions.

Please watch your inbox for the feedback survey and fill it out at your convenience. In the meantime, I want to thank all of our students, staff and families for their hard work and flexibility as we continue to strive to keep our schools open.

Thank you, and have a great weekend.

Joe Garza, Superintendent