Dear Parents and Students:

I hope that this message finds you and your family healthy and in good spirits as we all continue to work from home through our remote learning program. Our staff members have done a great job connecting with students and we all continue to be grateful and impressed that 90% of students log in each day to continue their learning. I would like to thank our students, parents and staff members for your adaptability, understanding and support of one another as we all work together to overcome the adversity created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**In-Progress Grade Report as of March 16**

Our students' last day of attendance in our schools was Friday, March 13. Anticipating that schools might be closed for an extended period, our staff members participated in professional development activities during an institute day on Monday, March 16. To ensure we had a record of each student's performance up to the point of our official closure, we recorded each student's **in-progress grade status of as March 16**.

Students and parents can access a summary of a student's grades in each course as of March 16 in Infinite Campus. To access the report, go to a student's record in Infinite Campus and select *More* from the left side menu, then select *D211 Student Reports* from the "Quick Links" section. Choose the ***As of March 16 In-Progress Report*** in the "Select Report" field.

It is important that students remain engaged in e-learning activities and complete assignments on a daily basis. Teachers continue to post grades in their Infinite Campus (IC) gradebooks during e-learning days. These grades provide feedback to students and parents about a student's progress in the course. E-learning assignments are designated in the gradebook with "EDAY" as part of the assignment title. Grades earned during the period of remote learning continue to be factored into a student's in-progress grade calculation viewable in Infinite Campus.

On Friday, March 27, the Illinois State Board of Education issued recommendations pertaining to remote learning. A key principle within the recommendations is that no student will experience an adverse impact on his or her grades in association with the changeover to remote learning.

To calculate a student's **end-of-semester grade**, we will apply the guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education.

At the end of the semester on May 22, if a student's in-progress grade is higher than it was on March 16 – which was the last day our schools were open before remote learning began – then the student's semester letter grade will reflect the higher grade. Alternatively, if a student's in-progress grade – including the grades earned during remote learning – is lower at the end of the semester than the grade the student earned as of March 16, then the student's final semester letter grade will either remain the same as it was on March 16 or the grade may be marked as "incomplete." Students receiving a grade of incomplete will be required to successfully complete core units of instruction over the summer months in order to earn credit for the course.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding remote learning, or about a student's access to or engagement in e-learning activities, please contact your child's teacher, counselor or administrator.


**Graduation and Other Year-End Events**

We know with certainty that schools will remain closed at least through April 30 and we have canceled all extra-curricular athletic and activity events during April by executive order of the Governor. Many individuals in the District continue to work on possible ways that we might still hold our graduation ceremonies and other year-end events. Seeking input directly from those who will be impacted, last week we invited senior students and their parents to participate in a survey about possible alternate graduation dates and arrangements. The **survey window closes at the end of the day today**, so please respond prior to this if you wish to share input.

We issued the survey on the morning of Thursday, April 9. Later that afternoon in his daily news conference, the Governor made reference to the likelihood that large gatherings may be prohibited throughout the summer. Because so many students and families could be impacted by an extended prohibition of gatherings, we have asked that the Illinois State Board of Education and the Governor provide any guidance as soon as possible so that school districts across the state can make arrangements. We continue to gather and formulate information about the range of options.


**District 211 Meal Bag Distribution**

Each Thursday during the period that our schools remain closed, High School District 211 will provide an individual bag that contains multiple meals to any child in-need. These meal bags will again be available for drive-through pick-up for any student enrolled in District 211 or under the age of 18 tomorrow, **Thursday, April**

**16**. Each Thursday, we will continue to distribute meals at **Palatine High School** and the **G.A. McElroy Administration Center** from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m., and at **Hoffman Estates High School** from 9:00 a.m. until noon. More information about our meal distribution is available [here](#).

**Weekly Communications**

We will continue to send weekly updates via email with information related to school operations and services while our schools remain closed. Please check the District 211 and school websites to access additional information regarding the impact of [COVID-19,](#) in addition to [District 211 e-learning](#) information.

Our partnership will help guide us through these unprecedented times as we are all stronger when we work together. Please stay safe and well.

Daniel E. Cates
Superintendent