

May 29, 2020

District 95 Parents and Guardians,

It is so hard to believe that the end of the school year has come. While I know that this spring has been very different than anything we could have imagined, I am so grateful for the way our entire learning community has come together. As a collective community, we have supported each other's needs, provided grace and understanding, and demonstrated exceptional flexibility; setting an extraordinary model for our students and each other during unprecedented times. As I reflect on the many wonderful experiences and celebrations throughout this year, my heart swells with great pride about all that we have shared. Whether it was the excitement generated by an outstanding performance of our student athletes, the laughter shared while listening to one of the Bear Voices song choices, the sound of our youngest students reading a story for the first time, or even the tears shed as we cheered on our seniors during a community wide parade to celebrate their graduation; I cannot help but to feel so privileged to have shared these experiences with our D95 family.

I would also like to take a moment to thank our parents, guardians, and 6-12 students for your participation in our recent survey. We are beginning a process to analyze all of the data collected within the survey from the 506 staff members, 973 parents/guardians, and 373 students. I will share the results of this information as a part of an upcoming communication.

While the hard work of 2019-20 is coming to a close, the district is currently preparing for summer learning programming as well as the upcoming school year. Please note the following:

REGISTRATION

Registration for school year 20-21 is now open. If you are registering a returning student, please login to Home Access to complete your registration and pay school fees for the upcoming school year. Please visit the <u>District website</u> for instructions and assistance for registering new students, or for information about the registration process. Also, please note that last night the Board of Education approved the Elementary Mobile Learning Initiative. Beginning in August of 2020, all Elementary students will be issued an iPad as a part of their curricular resources. The new iPad will support transformative learning experiences both inside and out of the classroom. As a part of the initiative, a \$40 technology fee will be assessed to each elementary student which covers the cost of AppleCare insurance. The Technology Department will provide additional information about the program in the coming week.

SUMMER LEARNING

Pre-K - 5 Summer Learning Choice Boards

I am excited to share that District 95 has curated some skills and resources to extend learning opportunities throughout the summer to help ensure that your child is confident as they approach the next grade level. We have created a board for each grade level that identifies the priority standards for that grade level content area – along with ELA and Math learning tasks, district reading resources, and both on-and off-screen learning fun as well! The boards are organized similarly to those you and your

student have been using throughout remote learning and will remain available throughout the summer. Simply find the grade level your learner will be headed into in the fall...click, learn and have fun! These boards will be available beginning June 5th on our website from a new Summer eLearning webpage.

Grades 6 – 12 Summer Learning Opportunities

We are also pleased to offer our Middle and High School students the opportunity to explore multiple different content areas throughout the summer. These resources will provide an excellent opportunity to maintain and increase your confidence in learned skill areas, explore new and exciting content, or use those rainy days to sharpen your test taking skills. Students can work independently at their own pace and are encouraged to engage in their passion for learning with no pressure! Please access the district's website for this <u>summer learning</u> on June 5.

SUMMER MEAL DISTRIBUTION REMINDERS

Please note that District 95 is continuing to offer daily breakfasts and lunches for pick-up at Lake Zurich High School through June 30, 2020. Two breakfasts and lunches will be provided on Mondays, while three breakfasts and lunches will be provided on Wednesdays.

ADDITIONAL CANCELLATIONS

Based on the continued expectations of the Restore Illinois plan, I am very sorry to report that District 95 is unable to provide K-8 sport camps for students this summer. Please know that we continue to be hopeful that we may be able to provide high school athletes with some form of a sport camp, but it will be based on the guidance of our State.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SUMMER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

During the latter half of the summer, the district will offer our parents and guardians access to webinars and learning bytes in response to previous requests for learning opportunities related to supporting student learning from the home front. Please look forward to more information in the near future.

2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR PLANNING EFFORTS

District 95 has formed a Pandemic Advisory Council to support the district in planning for our upcoming school year. While we are always prepared to resume school as normal, we are also planning for the following potential academic experiences based on State guidance:

- Full Capacity: Face-to-Face Model with State Restrictions
- Hybrid: Blended Model (Combination of Face-to-Face Instruction and eLearning)
- Remote Learning: Updated eLearning Model

The Pandemic Advisory Council will be meeting on June 2 to begin a process of reviewing the stakeholder survey results, developing an understanding of the summer work-team assignments, and reviewing a timeline for work completion. Our ultimate goal is to provide the Board of Education with a formal Return to School plan on July 21, 2020 during the District 95 regular meeting of the Board of Education. Throughout the summer, I will provide regular updates to our learning community to keep you apprised of the work being completed, as well as to assist you in preparing for the start of the 2020-21 school year.

Phone: (847) 438-2831 FAX: (847) 438-6702 www.lz95.org

LZHS GRADUATION

Based on our survey results and the hope of Illinois reaching Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois plan, we may need additional dates during the week of July 13 to provide multiple graduation ceremonies. The high school administrative team is continuing to plan for this ceremony and will provide updated communication when it becomes available. In the meantime, please consider sharing your graduation parade photos with us <u>via this link</u> so that we can compile a slideshow to commemorate this experience that was well received across the community.

LZHS SENIOR HONORS NIGHT

We continue to be hopeful in providing this event on July 14. Updates will be provided closer to the end of June, 2020. This communication will come directly from the high school administrative team.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROMOTIONS

District 95 continues to plan for the promotion ceremonies for our 8th grade students. The middle school administrative team will communicate any updates related to these ceremonies towards the end of June, 2020. Currently, the events are planned as per the following:

July 22, 2020: MSNJuly 23, 2020: MSS

In closing, please celebrate the conclusion of the 2019-20 school year. Together we accomplished a lot on behalf of all students! Our entire district administrative team, District 95 staff, and our Board of Education, thank you for all you have done to support our students and each other! District 95 is a generous and thoughtful community focused on those who will lead us in the future - our students!

Have a wonderful and safe start to your summer!

Dr. Kelley Gallt Superintendent