



Morris Elementary School District #54

Inspiring Excellence In Every Child Every Day

November 20, 2020

Dear Parents, Community, and Staff of Morris Elementary School District #54:

As we prepare to enter the second trimester of the 2020-21 school year, we are thankful for the hard work and dedication of the entire Morris #54 School Community and all that we have achieved during this pandemic. We have continued to teach our students in new, creative and excellent ways--virtually and in-person! However, due to the current absences that we are experiencing, it has become difficult to safely and adequately staff the schools. Based on the rising numbers of students and staff in quarantine/isolation, as well as an increasing number of positive cases in the Morris area and Grundy County, we have made the very difficult decision to move to remote instruction from November 30 to January 5, 2021.

Please be aware that things are still continuing to change rapidly. We will continue to monitor data from the Illinois Department of Public Health and seek guidance from our local health department, in the event we need to extend our remote learning period. Also, it is possible that outside sources (Illinois State Board of Education or the Governor) could force the District to make modifications to our remote learning period.

Families can expect specific information on Remote Learning schedules and material pick-up from school administration. In the meantime, we urge everyone to use caution and follow the recommended social distancing guidelines over the holiday times so that we are all ready for in person instruction to resume in January. Please do your part in keeping our communities safe and reducing the transmission of this virus. We will get through this together if we all do our part.

Finally, on behalf of our entire staff we want to thank our families for their continued partnership during this year as our students and staff develop new ways of learning and interacting. We could not do this without your help, and we are so grateful for your engagement and collaboration to aid our efforts as we continue to adjust to this new reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shannon Dudek". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dr. Shannon Dudek, Superintendent of Schools