



Flossmoor School District 161
Engage. Inspire. Empower.

Dr. Dana Smith, Superintendent

**41 E. Elmwood Drive
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
(708) 647-7030
www.sd161.org**

February 18, 2022

Hello District 161 students, families, and staff,

The promised winter storm did not arrive as planned this week, so another E-learning day was used. We have two remaining E-learning days for the year and I hope that there are clear skies ahead, so that we can avoid using them altogether. Having said that, if you have feedback on the E-learning schedule, the types of learning activities, or similar topics, please share them with your building principal. We will continue to review our practices, so that we are providing excellent learning experiences for our students, whether remotely or in-person.

COVID-19 Metrics

As of today, we have 2 active COVID-19 cases between students and staff members in our 5 schools and district office. In addition, we have 0 outbreaks at this time. You can find our district and school metrics anytime by following [this link](#). Please make sure to keep your child home from school if they are ill and also notify your building nurse if your child does test positive for COVID-19. The breakdown of the active student and staff cases is as follows:

Location	Number of Active Cases	Student Vaccination Percentages
Flossmoor Hills	0	16%
Heather Hill	0	22%
Serena Hills	2	17%
Western Avenue	0	39%
Parker Junior High	0	37%
Normandy Villa	0	N/A

***UPDATED* COVID-19 Protocols**

The Board of Education had a thoughtful discussion on this topic at our most recent meeting. All of our current protocols still stand and we are closely monitoring our original COVID-19 metrics, since they give us a lot of information about the impact of COVID-19 in our school district and community. Our discussion will continue on February 28th and I would expect to have information on mask wearing in District 161 after that meeting.

***UPDATED* Community SHIELD Testing Information**

We are offering community COVID-19 SHIELD testing on Saturdays, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at Parker Junior High School. Additional details can be found [here](#).

Employment Opportunities

Interested in becoming a part of the D161 team? We are currently seeking individuals to fill the following positions for this school year: Art Teacher at Parker Junior High, Lunchroom Supervisor at Serena Hills, School Support Aide at Parker Junior High, Special Education Paraprofessional at Western Avenue and Parker Junior High, Guest Teachers, Guest School Nurses, and 2nd Shift Custodian. For the 2022-23 school year, we have the following positions available: Special Education Resource Teacher at Western Avenue, 4th Grade Teacher and Art Teacher at Serena Hills, Physical Education Teacher and Music Teacher at Flossmoor Hills, .5 FTE Speech Language Pathologist for Western Avenue and Flossmoor Hills, F/T Speech Language Pathologist and Heather Hill, and a 5th Grade Teaching position at a school to be determined later.

For our online application, click [this link](#) and then the 'Apply' button next to the position. To find out more about what D161 has to offer, click [here](#). If you have any questions about the process to becoming a licensed substitute teacher, please contact our Human Resources department.

Illinois 5Essentials Parent Survey

All parents/guardians are encouraged to complete the Illinois 5Essentials Parent Survey. The survey is open now until March 11, 2022. All survey responses are anonymous. The survey results will help our schools identify areas of celebration and opportunities for growth! We truly appreciate your feedback!

How to take the survey:

- [Click here](#) to take the survey.
- Select a 'Parent Survey'.
- You may enter your email address if you would like to receive confirmation of your submission, but it is not required.
- Enter 'COOK' into the county field and 'NAME OF SCHOOL' to find your child's school.
- Please remember to click 'submit' at the end of the survey.

***NEW* 2022-23 School Calendar**

The Board of Education approved the 2022-23 school calendar on February 14. School will begin for students on Thursday, August 18. The full calendar can be viewed [here](#).

As a reminder, school will be closed on Monday, February 21st, in observance of President's Day. I hope you all have a chance to enjoy the long weekend!

Sincerely,

Dr. Dana Smith, Superintendent