

Brad Tuttle
Superintendent



Jersey Community Unit District No. 100

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Dear Staff, Parents and Community members:

I hope this message finds you and your families safe and well. Yesterday, the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health released their first document of joint guidance for schools on starting the 2020-21 school year. Additional guidance is expected.

This 60-page document (www.isbe.net/Documents/Part-3-Transition-Planning-Phase-4.pdf) has been much anticipated and will go a long way toward answering critical questions all of us share about what the 2020-21 school year will look like in terms of in-person learning, scheduling, transportation, wearing masks, social distancing and other measures intended to keep everyone safe and healthy, while also re-engaging students in the learning process. We can say at this time that the State Board of Education is encouraging full time in-person education with facial coverings. We are therefore encouraged that we will all be back in the school buildings in August.

Right now, we don't have all the answers to those questions as this document was released to school districts at the same time it was released to the public. Therefore, we kindly ask for your patience as our staff thoroughly reviews this detailed guidance and implements the suggestions into our district's own transition plan. We will continue to consult with the local health department for advice as more detailed guidance becomes available from the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health over the next month.

The Jersey CUSD #100 is keenly aware of the urgent need to communicate to families about what to expect next school year and we anticipate releasing our own transition plan in mid-July.

As you may know, our district formed a transition team and has already been discussing options. This guidance will accelerate those conversations, and I'm confident our district can put forth a plan that prioritizes the health and safety of our students while maintaining a dynamic learning environment.

Thank you again for your patience, understanding, and flexibility as we move forward.

The building administrators or I will be in touch soon. In the meantime, stay safe and enjoy your summer.

Sincerely,
Brad Tuttle, Superintendent
#GoJerseyPanthers