

FRANKLIN PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

District 84, Cook County

2915 Maple Street
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131
(847) 455-4230
FAX (847) 455-9094
www.d84.org

Dr. David H. Katzin, Superintendent

The mission of Franklin Park School District 84 is to provide all our children a quality education within a safe and nurturing environment that motivates them to be lifelong learners and morally responsible citizens.



April 1, 2020

Dear School Community,

We hope this letter finds you in good health. Yesterday afternoon, Governor Pritzker took action to extend the mandatory stay-at-home order until April 30th, which effectively serves to extend the closure of our schools as well. With only three weeks scheduled for students after that point, it begs the question, why don't we simply announce a closure for the remainder of the school year?

This is a valid question and a course of action that has been given a great deal of consideration. In fact, we are planning for the likelihood that our buildings will remain closed through the end of the school year and encourage you to do the same. However, our ability to keep our buildings closed and still have the days count towards the completion of a full year of school is directly tied to the Governor's stay-at-home order.

If we shut down and the Governor relaxes his order after April 30th, as unlikely as this may be, we would be put in the difficult predicament of our e-learning days not counting as official school days, as required by the Illinois State Board of Education.

As such, we are officially notifying you that our buildings will remain closed through April 30th, while at the same time acknowledging that the possibility of extending e-learning for the remainder of this school year is likely. Any decision to reopen our buildings will be made with the safety and well-being of our students and staff as our primary consideration.

We would also like to acknowledge the incredible effort and display of flexibility on the part of all of our stakeholders. No matter how we look at it, the experience of this pandemic is going to be a formative one for our children. It's up to the adults in their lives to ensure that it isn't the uncertainty and boredom that they remember twenty years from now, but rather the love, caring, and strong sense of community that guided them through it.

We appreciate your continued understanding and support during this challenging time and look forward to the day when our entire school community can be as physically present with one another as we currently are emotionally. Our goal is to keep you informed and to give you every opportunity to make arrangements for an uncertain future. We will continue to update our school communities as information becomes available to us. Take care and be healthy.

Sincerely,

Franklin Park 84
David Katzin

Rosemont 78
Kevin Anderson

Schiller Park 81
Kim Boryszewski

Mannheim 83
Kim Petrasek

Rhodes 84.5
Jim Prather

River Grove 85.5
Jan Rashid

Berkeley 87
Terri Bresnahan

Leyden HS 212
Nick Polyak

North Elementary
Cody Huisman, Principal
9500 Gage St.
Phone (847) 678-7962
Fax (847) 678-3616

Passow Elementary
Judy Martin, Principal
2838 Calwagner St.
Phone: (847) 455-6781
Fax (847) 455-1465

Pietrini Elementary
Melissa Llano, Principal
9750 Fullerton Ave.
Phone (847) 455-7960
Fax (847) 455-1809

Hester Jr. High
Giffen Trotter, Principal
2836 Gustav St.
Phone (847) 455-2150
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Querida comunidad escolar,

Esperamos que esta carta los encuentre en buena salud. Ayer por la tarde, el gobernador Pritzker tomó medidas para extender la orden obligatoria de permanecer en casa hasta el 30 de abril, lo que efectivamente sirve para extender el cierre de nuestras escuelas también. Con solo tres semanas programadas para los estudiantes después de ese punto, surge la pregunta, ¿por qué no anunciamos simplemente un cierre para el resto del año escolar?

Esta es una pregunta válida y algo que se le ha dado mucha consideración. De hecho, estamos planeando la posibilidad de que nuestros edificios permanezcan cerrados hasta el final del año escolar y esperamos que ustedes estén preparados para esto. Sin embargo, nuestra habilidad de mantener nuestros edificios cerrados y aún tener los días contados para completar un año escolar completo está directamente basado en la orden de permanecer en casa del gobernador.

Si cerramos y el gobernador decide relajar su orden después del 30 de abril, por improbable que esto sea, nos viéramos en una situación difícil de que nuestros días de aprendizaje electrónico (e-Learning) no cuenten como días escolares, como lo exige la Junta Estatal de Educación de Illinois.

Como tal, le estamos oficialmente notificando que nuestros edificios permanecerán cerrados hasta el 30 de abril. Al mismo tiempo, estamos reconociendo que es probable que vamos extender el aprendizaje electrónico (e-Learning) durante el resto de este año escolar. Cualquier decisión de reabrir nuestros edificios se tomará con la seguridad y el bienestar de nuestros estudiantes y personal como nuestra consideración principal.

También nos gustaría reconocer el increíble esfuerzo y demostración de flexibilidad de parte de todos nuestros accionistas. No importa cómo lo veamos, la experiencia de esta pandemia va a ser formativa para nuestros hijos. Depende de los adultos en sus vidas en asegurarse de que no sea la incertidumbre y el aburrimiento que recuerden dentro de veinte años, sino más bien el amor, el cuidado y el fuerte sentido de comunidad que los guió a través de este tiempo.

Apreciamos su entendimiento y apoyo durante este tiempo difícil y esperamos con ansias el día en que toda nuestra comunidad escolar pueda estar tan físicamente presente entre nosotros como lo estamos actualmente emocionalmente. Nuestro objetivo es mantenerlos informados y darles cada oportunidad para hacer arreglos para un futuro inseguro. Continuaremos manteniendo nuestras comunidades escolares al día a medida que la información esté disponible para nosotros. Cuidense y manténganse saludables.

Atentamente,

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