

# 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 30, 2020

Dear Students, Parents, and Members of the District 84 Community,

I hope this update finds you well, both physically and emotionally. In my last correspondence, I promised to follow-up with more detailed responses to some of the questions that are floating around out there. After thorough discussion and consideration of all the available options, here are the most comprehensive answers I can provide at this time:

**Students' Personal Items:** We are in the process of placing all of our students' personal effects into individual bags and will be scheduling curbside pickups at each of our schools according to classroom or grade level. Please be on the lookout for additional information and pickup schedules from your child's school.

**Student Recognition/Awards Assemblies:** Recognizing the effort and achievements of our students is extremely important to us. While current conditions continue to necessitate a physical separation, the emotional ties we have with our students remain as strong as ever. As such, our schools are developing virtual recognition/awards programs that will be distributed electronically to our families. We encourage you to help us make a special event out of the program by viewing it together at home and cheering as if you were part of a live audience!

**8th Grade Graduation:** A large percentage of our 8th graders have been with us since kindergarten. We have had the privilege to watch them grow and mature into the young men and women that they are today, and it truly pains us that we are unable to celebrate their transition to high school through a traditional, in-person promotional exercise. However, that does not mean that this milestone will go unrecognized. As has been planned all along, the 2020 eighth grade promotional exercise will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 21st, the only exception being that it will be presented in a virtual format. It may not be the traditional event that we were all looking forward to, but we are working hard to give our 8th graders a virtual graduation that is memorable and, hopefully, something that they will come to cherish over time. Graduates and families, additional information will be forthcoming from Hester Junior High in the coming days.

**Registration/Residency Verification:** We have recently contracted to have our student registration process handled through an online portal that aligns with our current student information database. While this change was obviously necessitated by the stay-at-home order, it will ultimately serve as a time saver for our families and the district while also lessening our reliance upon paper documents. We anticipate that this simple and user-friendly portal will be available in early June, at which time you will receive a set of instructions on how to access it.

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  
Fax (847) 455-0945

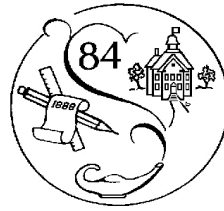
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That's the *registration* end of it; residency verification is another matter altogether. Our plan at this point - and this is subject to change depending upon the state guidelines and acceptable safety practices in place near the end of the summer - is to conduct residency verifications in late July in the gyms of each of our respective schools according to a classroom/grade level appointment schedule. This way, we will be able to maintain appropriate social distancing while making certain that the high quality programming you have become accustomed to in District 84 remains reserved for the benefit of those who reside within our boundaries. As with just about everything else I've talked about in this letter, additional information and scheduling for the residency verification process will be forthcoming. Please note that the entire enrollment process won't be considered final until the residency verification has been completed.

**District-Owned Technology:** Students in kindergarten through seventh grade who currently have a district owned device will be allowed to maintain possession of them through the summer. We encourage you to utilize these devices to access additional learning opportunities over this period of time, but PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO KEEP THEM IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION!

Current eighth graders will return their Chromebooks and cases to Hester when they pick up their diploma the week after the graduation ceremony (you will receive more details about this along with the graduation specifics).

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We are all dealing with a wide variety of challenges associated with this pandemic and accompanying quarantine, yet in the midst of it all, please remember that there are also opportunities to celebrate and find solace in some unexpected "silver linings," like the extra time we have to spend with our children and the wonderful sense of support and common purpose that have been evident throughout our community.

When we emerge on the back end of this pandemic, we will undoubtedly do so with a newfound appreciation for all of the little things that we took for granted in our lives. It doesn't make up entirely for the hardship of the here and now, but it does give us something to look forward to!

Take care and be well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Katzin".

David Katzin  
Superintendent

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