



### **SD 308 Family! We Got This!**

Please submit content for Friday Updates to: [communications@sd308.org](mailto:communications@sd308.org).....thank you!

**Aug 28, 2020**

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#### **A Message from Dr. Sparlin:**

As we end our first week of remote learning, I would like to thank the entire 308 staff for all of your work leading up to our first week of remote learning. Thank you and congratulations on making the first week a good start to the 20-21 school year. Back-to-school this year certainly looks different than any other August we have ever lived through, and I see that all of our staff have taken their passion, creativity, and dedication to new levels. I am so grateful to all of you for your dedication to our students and our community! Our unity of purpose, clear vision and perseverance will see us through until that wonderful day when we can, and will, welcome all of our students back into our classrooms again.

This week I had the opportunity to visit many schools and speak to staff on how things were going. I heard the passion in people's voices on how happy they were to be back teaching and interacting with their peers and students. I also heard how this week has been one of the most trying times even for those with advanced technology skills. I know we are all carrying a lot of weight on our shoulders and that the stress of remote learning and this pandemic is very real. Please know that we are here to help and support you in whatever you need to make remote learning the best experience that it can be.

I know that there are many GCN trainings that need to be completed by December 31. I've spoken to our team and we are going to allocate half of the institute day on November 2 to providing you time to get these trainings finished. I hope this helps alleviate a little stress.

Here are a couple of quotes that I thought applied to the beginning of our 20-21 experience.....

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."- Lao Tzu

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase." - Dr. Martin Luther King

We've taken our first steps in our journey, we don't know how long we will be on this path, and we all have to have faith in ourselves that we will be successful.  
Always remember.....Together, We Got this!

#### **COVID-19 Information**

Please complete the Daily COVID-19 Employee Self Screening Certification Survey each day BEFORE starting work; even if you are working remotely. Upon entering and exiting a building, please scan in with your id. Nurses will not do any clinical evaluation on persons reporting any COVID-19 symptoms; they may do temperature checks on asymptomatic individuals. If you have technology issues please email [webmaster@sd308.org](mailto:webmaster@sd308.org).

There is a COVID resource page on the employee intranet, with several helpful documents and links.

#### **Pass It On! .....Has Gone VIRTUAL!**

Thank you to all those who sent a note of gratitude, a shout out, or a thank you to a SD 308 staff member. To send an electronic Pass It On!....please [click here](#) or visit the Communication's tab on the Intranet.

#### **Social Emotional Learning Resources**

Please visit the SD308 Social Emotional Learning Resources at [wakelet.com/@heidipodjasek308](https://wakelet.com/@heidipodjasek308)  
Create an account to follow the page, as well as create your own collections for yourself or

students. A lot of you have created or found amazing tools/resources for SEL in your classrooms. Please use this form ([SEL/Mental Health Resource Submission](#)) to suggest a resource to be shared with colleagues!

### **2020-21 Emergency Response Procedures**

The 2020-21 Quick Reference Emergency Response Procedures that may be needed by classroom teachers during drills and actual emergencies can now be found on the Intranet under the [Student Services](#) tab. A [video](#) clarifying terms that were implemented in the 2019-20 school year has also been posted for your review.

### **Elementary Specials / Wednesdays - Go Live!**

On Wednesday Go Live! Days, elementary students will participate in art, music, P.E., and library. Due to the number of students, schools have split up their half-hour grade-level times to include two 15-minute live sessions in order to have smaller amounts of students participating at the same time. This will help students and teachers make stronger connections with one another while actively participating in the activities for the day.

### **Curriculum Nights**

Curriculum Nights for the 2020-21 school year will not be held in person. Teachers are creating videos containing information that would be covered during those evenings that will be shared with parents in the Sept. 8 Week at a Glance email.

### **2020 Assessment Calendar SY21**

The 2020 - 2021 Assessment Calendar is now available: [Oswego CUSD 308 Assessment Calendar SY 21](#) Additional information will be sent home to parents next month.

### **Student Illinois Health Requirements**

While on remote learning, student physicals and immunizations are still required to be submitted by October 15, 2020 in order to avoid exclusion from school. For a complete listing of 2020-2021 Illinois Health Requirements for Student Enrollment, please [click here](#).

### **Communications to Parents/Students**

In an effort to help parents with multiple students keep track of their incoming emails, please include in your subject lines: School initials, Teacher Name, Grade, Subject and/or Course.

### **FSA - Special Open Enrollment**

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, CUSD 308 will be providing benefit-eligible employees with a special mid-year, Flexible Spending Account enrollment opportunity, August 15 – August 30. During this special enrollment, Benefit-eligible members will have the option to increase or decrease the amount they have withheld for their 2020 health care FSA annual election. Changes cannot be less than expenses paid or reimbursed by your FSA to date in 2020. For those enrolling in the 2020 health care FSA for the first time, only eligible expenses incurred between September 1, through Dec. 31, 2020, are reimbursable. To enroll or make changes log into <https://enroll.benefitsconnect.net/Login/V2>, and complete a 'Change in status' Life Event, effective Sept 1, 2020. If you have questions or need assistance regarding this information please contact Glenn Campos in Human Resources at 630-636-3680.

### **Naturally Slim® Program Reminder**

We know that now—more than any other time—you may need to lean on coping and healthy self-care skills to help adjust to the ever-changing environment. With Naturally Slim, you can learn skills to help you reach a healthy weight, relieve stress, manage anxiety, and focus on self-care. If

you are enrolled on the BCBSIL PPO or HRA medical plan, Employees, spouses and covered dependents over age 18 are eligible to participate in a 10-week, online program that teaches you how to lose weight & improve your health without giving up your favorite foods. To be considered, visit [www.naturallyslim.com/CUSD308](http://www.naturallyslim.com/CUSD308) to apply and learn more.

**Livongo Behavioral Health Online Services NO COST covered until 12/31/2020**

BCBS Livongo will continue to offer its COVID-19-specific version of its myStrength digital behavioral health self-service tool to our District employees and their family and friends during the pandemic for Free. Topics range from loneliness to managing time at home with children. This tool has 25 education modules about mental health and evidence-based coping skills and will be free to our members and any visitor accessing resources through <https://bh.mystrength.com/plancvd19> until the end of Year.

**GCN (Global Compliance Network) Training**

The required GCN (Global Compliance Network) training tutorials are now live for the 2020-2021 school year. This year, tutorials must be completed by December 31, 2020. To access these tutorials, please visit [www.gcctraining.com](http://www.gcctraining.com). The organization ID is 58077d, and your User ID is your five digit employee ID number. If you do not recall your employee ID number, please click the button titled "I was not given a User ID or I forgot my User ID" and follow the prompts. Your User ID will be emailed to your District 308 email. Please note, this year the DCFS Mandated Reporter training link will take you to the Illinois DCFS training site, please register for an account, complete the training, and email a copy of your Certificate of Completion to [transcripts@sd308.org](mailto:transcripts@sd308.org). If you have any questions or need assistance accessing the GCN training tutorials, please contact Kris Odum at 630.636.3081 or [kodum@sd308.org](mailto:kodum@sd308.org).

**Facebook...Do you Follow?**

Do you follow the district's Facebook page? The page is updated with many great stories, pictures, videos, announcements and information during urgent situations. It's a great way to stay up to date with the happening around SD 308! Like the [Community Unit School District 308](#) page on Facebook!

**BOE Meeting:** The next Board of Education Meeting will be held on Monday, Aug. 31 at 7:30 pm. You can live stream the meetings from home, just visit [www.sd308.org](http://www.sd308.org).

As a reminder - All Friday Updates can be found on the Intranet under the Communications Tab.

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***"You must tell yourself, 'No matter how hard it is, or how hard it gets, I'm going to make it.'"***  
~Les Brown