



**SD 308 Family! Together, We Got This!**

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

**November 20, 2020**

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**A Message from Dr. Sparlin:**

*American Education Week is always celebrated the week prior to Thanksgiving. We take time to honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every student receives a quality education. We express our sincerest gratitude to all of the people who make the education process possible for the future of our country. American Education Week serves as a tribute to all of you who work day in and day out to make a difference in the lives of our students.*

*As we all know, this year is unlike any we have ever experienced. You have faced extraordinary challenges and worked tirelessly to deliver outstanding educational services, under very difficult circumstances, for the past nine months. The work you do every day fulfills the promise that we make to our future. So today, among everything else you are doing for others, take a little time to celebrate your accomplishments and know that all of us appreciate you now more than ever.*

*It is truly an honor to serve as your Superintendent and I am excited about the great work being accomplished now and in the future throughout our school system. We are privileged to work in and be part of such a rewarding profession, one that positively impacts the lives of thousands of children every day. Today we serve a little over 17,000 students and every one of them is fortunate to have each of you in their life. I applaud your efforts to do whatever it takes to ensure our students can grow and achieve. I would like to personally THANK YOU for all that you do to make our students feel supported and cared for like no other school district can do.*

*As we celebrate American Education Week, it is vital to remember, we are ALL part of the School District 308 team made up of almost 2,400 employees. Whatever your role in School District 308, let this serve as a reminder of how important you all are in the lives of our children. Working together, I am certain we can transform our vision into reality, to educate all students to reach their highest potential.*

*In closing, please take the time to acknowledge your colleagues and staff members because.....Great Teachers + Great Support Professionals = Great Schools!*

**Tier 3 Mitigation Begins Statewide**

The directive states school districts and officials should continue to follow the extensive [guidance](#) released by the Illinois State Board of Education in August to make decisions related to in-person and remote learning at the local level.

**District Closed**

The district will be closed starting Wednesday, November 25th through Friday, November 27th of next week for Thanksgiving. Please power down any devices that do not need to be on while the district is closed during this time.

**Delayed Reopening Plan**

The district will be delaying the progression of our reopening plan until at least January 6. Additionally, special education self-contained classes will step back to remote. Related services, instructional support and targeted skills review will be occurring 1:1 on-site. The [staff announcement from November 17, 2020](#), can be found on the intranet under the Reopening Resources for Staff section.

### **Athletics & Activities On Pause**

In response to mitigation restrictions and announcements from IHSA, changes will be made to the way athletics and activities operate in our district. To allow time for planning and communication, ALL in-person sports, performing arts, extra-curricular activities, and clubs are paused beginning Friday, November 20 through Sunday, November 29. Prior to November 30, guidance regarding the feasibility of resuming these activities and any associated restrictions will be released. Additionally, all rentals for athletic and recreational purposes will be paused until further notice. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we work diligently on a plan that aligns with the newest guidance.

### **COVID-19 Information (PLEASE READ)**

Remember any staff or student reporting symptoms, exposure or a positive case must use the District [COVID Reporting Form](#) to communicate this information to the district (*this is always STEP 1*).

### **COVID 19 Employee Resources - INTRANET**

Visit the [SD 308 Remote Learning Resources](#) link on the Intranet for valuable information including links to the district's Safety Plan, reporting a COVID case/exposure/symptoms, and more! Visit the [Advanced SD 308 Remote Learning Resources](#) for tips and ideas on using technology in the remote setting. Visit the [metrics](#) link on the Intranet to keep up-to-date on the measurements from the four (4) zip codes that help inform our decisions to safely move between stages of reopening.

### **Food Drive - "Fill the Bus to Stock the Pantry"**

This year's 7th Annual Food Drive collected 139,152 items for the Kendall County Community Food Pantry and the Oswego Satellite Location of the KCCFP. While we unfortunately did not break last year's total, we feel very strongly that this was perhaps one of the most successful drives over the last 7 years considering the constraints imposed due to COVID-19. We thank each and every individual in this district for their support in helping to feed those in need in our community. Over the last 7 years, the district has collected 953,259 total items (next year we will break the 1 million mark)! Congratulations to our Grand Champion - Churchill (23,300 items collected); High School Winner - OHS (16,175 items) and Junior High Winner - Plank (6,327 items). "Hunger hurts. But it is not a disease. It's a situation. And it's one we can solve!"~KCCFP For more information on how to continue donating to the KCCFP, visit: [kccfoodpantry.org](http://kccfoodpantry.org)

### **Food/M meal Pick Up**

Next week: There is meal pick-up ONLY on Monday, November 23rd from 7am-9:30am or 12:30pm-1:30pm. Please note that the location for this pick-up is: OHS (Door 13). Families will receive six meals at pickup.

### **Mobile Food Pantries / VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The Northern Illinois Mobile Food Pantries, which will be held at Long Beach (Monday, 11/30), Fox Chase (Monday, 12/21), and Long Beach (Thursday, 1/21) are currently looking for volunteers. To volunteer, please [click here](#) to sign up! Your support is greatly appreciated.

### **EC & Elementary / November 23 & November 24 Conferences**

**November 23** -- This is a "Remote for All Day" (5-hour student attendance day).

**November 24** -- This is a non-student attendance day / **no** live or remote sessions on this day.

**Remote Parent/Teacher Conferences:** November 23 (4:00-8:00) and November 24 (8:00-1:00).

**Brokaw Early Learning Center:** November 23 and 24 are non-student attendance days for our students participating in our early childhood programs.

### **BlueCross BlueShield: Standing By You**

BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois (BCBSIL) believes your health, safety and wellbeing are their top priorities. As such, their health plan gives you access to the care you need and important health information about your BCBS plan, helps you stay informed about COVID-19 and provides information on how to access the care and coverage you need. [Click Here to Learn More.](#)

### **OMNI Updates**

The 2020 4th quarter edition of the OMNI Updates newsletter is available, "Providing a Better Understanding of Your Tax Deferred Retirement Benefit".....[click here](#). If you should have any questions related to their services, please contact the Omni Group at [www.omni403b.com](http://www.omni403b.com).

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**Facebook....**Follow and "like" the [Community Unit School District 308](#) page on Facebook. If you have any great happenings you would like to share on the district's fb page, please email [communications@sd308.org](mailto:communications@sd308.org) (with a picture) and we will do our best to post it!

**News Stories....**As a friendly reminder, we always welcome "good news" types of stories sent to us through [www.sd308.org/Stories](http://www.sd308.org/Stories).

**Pass It On!....**[Click here](#) or visit the Communication's tab on the Intranet to send a Pass It On!

**Share A Smile :-)**... share this with your parents, students and community members. An electronic "smile" card from them to any staff member in the district.

**Friday Updates:** All Friday Updates can be found on the Intranet under the [Communications Tab](#).

**BOE Meeting...**The next Board of Education Meeting will be on Monday, December 7th at 7:30 pm at Oswego East High School. You can live stream the meeting from home at [www.sd308.org](http://www.sd308.org).

*"When asked if my cup is half-full or half-empty, my only response is that I am thankful I have a cup." ~Sam Lefkowitz*

*Always be grateful for the peace you have in your life. It doesn't mean you have no problems, it means you can look past your problems and still feel gratitude for the good.*

*SD 308 Wishes you a Happy Thanksgiving!*

