



Superintendent Monthly Report

December 8, 2020

General Updates

On October 5 the district transitioned into an in-person learning model at CES and BMS. Since the start of the year there have been eight confirmed COVID cases among staff and students. Five of those cases are associated with non-classroom staff and students (remote learners). Each week the State Department of Health provides a weekly webinar to answer questions for the school community. The State Department of Public Health (DPH) is shifting away from its initial framework that provides guidance on when to shift from in-person learning to fully-remote learning. The initial framework was established based on COVID trends in the late winter and spring. Since that time the DPH has more information and believes the initial framework parameters were set too low. DPH continues to report that transmission within schools continues to be very low. The feedback is based on the fact that school related cases are often traced back to out-of-school activities. Additionally, the transmission to individuals within school to individuals considered to be a close contact is rare. The district will continue with our in-person learning model as long as confirmed cases within the school community are low, the educational impact of quarantining close contacts is manageable, and our ability to staff classrooms is possible.

Currently there are 72 students that have elected to learn through a full-remote learning model. The total number of students using this learning model has been fairly consistent since the start of school.

Student Assessment

It is without doubt that the COVID pandemic will negatively impact performance levels for the foreseeable future. How students learn has been impacted by social distancing and physical distancing. The continuity of instruction has been variable for ten months. The level of stress and trauma for many students and families may negatively impact student learning for many students. However, students are making progress, learning is happening, and teachers are creating effective learning environments for our students in spite of the obstacles they face. It is astonishing how resilient students are. The following table provides some baseline data using our new iReady assessment tool. It is my intention to provide the Board with a full presentation on student achievement at a future Board meeting.

CPS Fall 2020 iReady Assessment Results

	Math			Reading		
	Proficient	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Emerging	Developing
Grade 1	5	76	18	13	79	8
Grade 2	5	84	12	16	67	16
Grade 3	13	63	25	50	34	16
Grade 4	9	59	32	23	55	23
Grade 5	18	65	18	48	23	30
Grade 6	23	56	21	40	40	19
Grade 7	18	58	24	53	36	11
Grade 8	15	26	59	46	26	28

Transportation Department

As previously reported, our bus mechanic has retired effective November 30. We have a few applications and anticipate interviewing new mechanics in the next two weeks. In the interim we have made arrangements with two facilities to support the district for general maintenance, major repairs, and towing if necessary.

Due to the vacancies in the business office I have assumed direct supervision of the Transportation department. The lead drivers and transportation director continue to navigate the ever changing high school schedules.

The district is also exploring our capacity to offer universal preschool transportation for the 2021-22 school year. This would include mid-day transportation to daycare providers. Anecdotally, families have reported that they would have enrolled in the CPS preschool program if mid-day transportation to a daycare provider was available. The School Readiness Council continues to investigate this new offering for our community.

Winter Athletics

All conversations for winter athletics have been put on hold. The most recent guidance from the CIAC is they are not making any decision until January 19. Once we hear from the CIAC, I will meet with our athletic director and middle school principal to further discuss options for winter sports.