

RIVERVIEW GARDENS

SCHOOL DISTRICT

November 11, 2020

Scott Spurgeon, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Dear RGSD Ramilies,

MISSION

The Riverview Gardens School District, along with families and the community, nurtures academic excellence in all students, preparing them to be college and career ready in an ever-changing society.

VISION

The Riverview Gardens School District creates a community of learners equipped to be competitors in a global society and leaders demonstrating social and civic responsibility.

As COVID-19 continues to surge throughout our region, it has become apparent that we cannot simply proceed as usual. Though we recently welcomed students back to in-person learning, the recent and dramatic increase in disease transmission has made it clear that we must pivot in a different direction. We believe that it is in the best interest of the health and safety of students, families and staff to move back into a 100% virtual learning model for students until further notice.

This recommendation was brought before the Special Administrative Board (SAB) during Open Session on Tuesday, November 10, 2020, and was unanimously approved. Effective Monday, November 16, all schools will return to a 100% virtual instruction model.

With an increasing rate of transmission in St. Louis County, record hospitalization rates in the region and a steady increase in suspected cases throughout the district, it is simply not sustainable to continue the in-person learning model at this time.

Rationale for this decision:

- High positivity rate reported by the St. Louis County Department of Public Health
- High positivity rate within RGSD – At least 243 positive cases in the 63136 and 63137 zip codes over a 14-day period
- More than 3,200 new cases in St. Louis County over the past 7 days
- An inability to adequately staff buildings, bus routes and the other essential roles in our district due to suspected or confirmed disease transmission throughout the region

Special Administrative Board

Lynn Beckwith, Jr., Ed.D.
Chair, C.B.M.

Veronica Morrow-Reel
Vice-Chair, Master C.B.M.

Mary Oswald
Secretary/Treasurer, C.B.M.

We are giving families and staff this notice to help prepare for the upcoming changes.

We continue to look forward to the day when we can welcome the RGSD community back into our buildings with open arms. However, we are currently facing a level of exposure that creates an unsustainable operating environment. Shifting to a 100% virtual learning model is necessary at this time.

We recognize that virtual learning causes logistical issues for families. Please reach out to your child's teacher to ensure your student has the resources they need to be successful.

Thank you for your continued support of Riverview Gardens School District. It's Always a Great Day to Be a Ram!



Dr. Scott D. Spurgeon
Superintendent of Schools
Riverview Gardens School District