

Dear Hawthorn Community:

On Friday, March 20th, Governor Pritzker issued an executive order requiring residents to “stay at home” effective Saturday, March 21 at 5:00 p.m. through the end of the day on Tuesday, April 7. As part of the Governor’s order, he announced that schools will remain closed with a new, tentative reopening date of Wednesday, April 8. I understand school closures pose a significant hardship for families, staff and students. Thank you for your cooperation, flexibility, and patience as we navigate these difficult days together. I am so proud to be part of a community that has come together during these challenging times. #Become1

Earlier this afternoon, our Teaching and Learning Department sent an email communication to all families regarding e-Learning. As the current crisis continues to evolve, we will revise our plans and protocols in accordance with guidelines set forth by the Illinois State Board of Education. Toward this end, please consider completing our [survey](#) by Friday, March 27th. The survey focuses on e-Learning and access to technology; responses will be used to inform future planning. As a reminder, e-Learning will cease during spring break (March 23-27) and resume the week of March 30.

This past week, we provided meals to many families in need. On a daily basis, we served approximately 150 meals (breakfasts and lunches) at Middle School South. Special thanks are extended to our many staff and parent volunteers who are working to safely distribute these meals. Please note that this meal service will temporarily stop during the week of spring break (March 23-27). Those who need assistance should visit our [home learning webpage](#) and review the [Local Community Resources](#) list.

As the number of COVID-19 cases in Lake County and Illinois continues to grow, we cannot say enough about taking precautions to stay healthy and help stop the spread of the virus. We ask that everyone in the District 73 community remain vigilant and continue to wash your hands, cough into your elbow, and maintain a distance of six feet whenever possible. If you have any COVID-19 questions, call the Illinois COVID-19 hotline at (800) 889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov.

Once again, I want to thank you for your patience and support. I look forward to our return to school on Wednesday, April 8 and, most importantly, the safe passage of everyone through this storm. Please continue to visit our [website](#) for updates. We will continue to keep you informed as this situation evolves.

Sincerely,

Peter Hannigan, Ed.D
Superintendent