

October 16, 2020

Dear District 73 Parents:

Thank you for your patience and support as we plan for an in-person learning option during the COVID-19 pandemic. In making decisions about what this will look like, our priority continues to be the health and safety of students, staff, and our Hawthorn community. We have accessed guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Lake County Health Department (LCHD).

During the Board of Education meeting on October 15, it was determined that the district will begin to implement an optional hybrid model for students enrolled in our early childhood and pre-kindergarten classes, as well as K-2 students in our self-contained special education program. Hybrid learning provides students with both in-person and remote instruction. Specific details related to our district's hybrid learning model for students enrolled in early childhood, pre-kindergarten, and K-2 self-contained special education is available in [English](#) and [Español](#).

For families choosing to participate in our early childhood hybrid option, students will begin in-person attendance the week of Monday, October 26. For families choosing to participate in our pre-kindergarten and K-2 self-contained special education hybrid option, students will begin in-person attendance the week of Monday, November 9. **Each district family with a child in early childhood, pre-kindergarten, or K-2 self-contained special education must register by Tuesday, October 20 at 5:00 p.m. to either continue participation in full remote learning or transition to hybrid learning.** Families register by logging into PowerSchool and following the prompts.

To complete the registration process:

- Fully understand your family's options. (Please see our FAQ in [English](#) or [Español](#). You may also visit our website at www.hawthorn73.org to view a video presentation.)
- Have your PowerSchool Parent Portal login and password information available.
- Complete the registration process in the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) by **Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.**

Once families register for either the full remote or hybrid learning option, students participate in that model through our second trimester (March 8, 2021). Families selecting hybrid learning may move back to full remote learning, if this becomes necessary due to family circumstances. Families selecting full remote learning will not be able to switch to hybrid learning until after our second trimester, due to scheduling constraints. In late February, the District will re-evaluate available learning models for our third trimester.

Thank you for your continued partnership as we navigate these unprecedented times. If you have any questions regarding your options, please do not hesitate to contact your child's case manager or building administrator.

Sincerely,

Pete Hannigan, Ed.D.
Superintendent