

October 22, 2020

Dear Gavin D37 Families:

This has been a great week for us to get kids onsite, and I can say that I firmly believe this was the right thing for us to do. Up until late last week, our local COVID-19 data has supported our decision to be in a blended-hybrid learning environment.

At the end of last week, the number of COVID-19 cases around Lake County began to show a sharp spike. Unfortunately, our local data also has shown a similar spike. I utilized the data to help support our decision to bring students back into the schools, and I cannot ignore the data when it goes against my desire to give families an option for in-person learning.

Please see below for the most current dashboard data:

Measurement (Click for most recent data)	Virtual All learning is remote for all learners	Hybrid Some learning can occur in person based on prioritized risk	In-Person All Learning can occur in-person	Current Status (as of 10/16/20) This status will be updated each week
COVID-19 Incidence Rate per 100,000 in Lake County	Daily Incidence Rate: Greater than 14 per 100,000 population	Daily Incidence Rate: Between 7 and 14 per 100,000 population	Daily Incidence Rate: Less than 7 per 100,000 population	20.7 (10/16/20) 7 day rolling average
Diagnostic Turn Around Time	Greater than 10 days	Between 3 and 10 days	Less than 3 days	2 days: (10/16/20) 7 day rolling average
Lake Cty Health Dept Positivity Rate*	8% or greater test positivity	Between 5% and 8% test positivity	Less than 5% test positivity	6.01% (10/16/20) 7 day rolling average
7 Day Average Incidence Rate (for zip codes 60046, 60041, 60020)	Daily Incidence Rate: Greater than 14 per 100,000 population	Daily Incidence Rate: Between 7 and 14 per 100,000 population	Daily Incidence Rate: Less than 7 per 100,000 population	1.93 per 10K (Date: 10/19/20) 1.93 person per 10,000 19.3 people per 100,000
Lake Cty Health Dept Positivity Rate* (for zip codes 60046, 60041, 60020)	8% or greater test positivity	Between 5% and 8% test positivity	Less than 5% test positivity	6.21% (Date: 10/15/20)

I have added the Lake County positivity rate to our dashboard, as I have gotten a few questions about it. Please remember, the top two metrics (with red borders) are the key indicators monitored by the Lake County Health Department (LCHD). Our local zip code data is shown in the grey boxes at the bottom.

The graph below represents the current data from all of Lake County:



As I shared yesterday, the Lake County Health Department (LCHD) is now recommending that we move to a virtual/remote learning environment due to increased community transmissions. If our local metrics showed low transmission rates, then we would have some flexibility.

Given our metrics at this time, we are going to need to do a 10-day adaptive pause on our blended-hybrid learning model beginning Monday, October 26th. Since this is occurring in the middle of our transition back to school, this pause will not impact all grade levels the same. We will finish this current week just as planned.

We have known and communicated from the beginning that health metrics may require us to pivot quickly. I know that a shift back to full remote, combined with mitigation requirements, will lead to more questions and more change, and I promise you we will work through them like we always do...together. Our building principals and teachers will be communicating with our families about the learning schedules during the coming weeks.

As a reminder, the pivot to remote learning will consist of five instructional hours daily of learning via synchronous and asynchronous instruction and will utilize the same instructional schedule, learning standards, and teaching strategies as the hybrid model. Hybrid students will remain with the same schedule and teachers during this shift to remote learning. Teachers will utilize Google Classroom and student emails to communicate. Please direct school-based questions to your teachers and school principals.

Again, this 10-day pause in our transition will not start until Monday, October 26th. Given this adaptive pause, we will return to the hybrid model when it is safe to do so, and I am hoping that our data shows we can return to campus on Monday, November 9th. I will provide an update for our families on or around November 4th. I am sorry for the inconvenience this is causing many of you. Let's hope for some positive movement in our data so we can get the kids back as soon as possible.

Best,

Julie A. Bua

Superintendent

Gavin School District 37

Julie A. Brua, Ed.D.

Superintendent, Gavin Elementary School District 37

jbrua@gavin37.org