



## SLPS Moving to Remote Learning

Laker Parents –

Over the past week to 10 days, SLPS has experienced a significant increase in positive COVID cases and a correspondingly high number of students and staff being placed into quarantine. What has emerged for our district over the last week is the tremendously disruptive impact of operating with so many students and staff working remotely. Our system is stretched thin.

Spring Lake is transitioning to remote learning according to the following timetable:

- November 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> – continue in-person learning. This two day transition will allow students and staff to make plans for remote learning. In addition, our working parents will have some (little, I know) time to make arrangements for child care, as needed.
- November 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> – these two days will be off. Staff can use the time to prepare remote learning lesson plans and everyone within the system can take a short breather.
- Beginning November 16<sup>th</sup> and continuing through November 24<sup>th</sup>, SLPS will operate via remote learning. Your child's teacher will share specifics – questions may be directed to the teacher or building principal, as needed.
- On November 30<sup>th</sup> we will return to in-person learning.

Our plan is designed to move COVID & quarantines off center stage and get back to learning as our primary focus.

In order for SLPS to get back to in-person instruction and stay there, we need all hands pulling in the same direction. Mitigation strategies must become a central focus for our families and community. There is no other way – that's it. Wear a mask, socially distance, keep your and your child's social circle small, and wash your hands regularly. And yes, we also need to get a little lucky.

A few additional notes:

- Middle and high school athletics will continue as scheduled. Parents of athletes will receive additional communication from their child's coach or the athletic office.
- The FAC will remain open.
- To our working parents – we see you and recognize how this may impact your family. Please reach out to our Community Child Care program ([mgeorge@springlakeschools.org](mailto:mgeorge@springlakeschools.org)) to inquire about that option. Capacity is limited but we will do our best to meet the need.
- SLPS will provide meals during this time – look for information about that over the next 24 hours.

Lakers, as you would expect, this decision was not made lightly or without some misgivings. Any unscheduled break from in-person learning is weighed against all potential alternatives before being decided. In-person is the best way for our students to learn – until, as is now the case, it isn't. That said, the SLPS Board, administration, and staff will push hard to resume and maintain in-person instruction following this brief move to remote learning.

Forward. Always.

Regards, Dennis Furton, Superintendent