



***Community Unit School District Number 7***  
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November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

Dear CUSD #7 Families,

This letter is to inform you that due to continued increases of COVID cases in our communities, and in Macoupin County, we must return to Full Remote Learning for all students within the CUSD #7 School District. The decision to take this step back was not made lightly. We have done our best to keep instruction on an in-person basis as long as we possibly could. We know how difficult remote learning is for students, parents, and teachers. We also understand that many families and teachers have been resistant to shifting away from in-person, and we fully understand that sentiment. However, we feel strongly that at this time the right thing to do is to shift into Full Remote instruction.

Full Remote will begin immediately after the Thanksgiving Break, November 30<sup>th</sup>, and continue until at least January 11<sup>th</sup>. We believe these four weeks of Full Remote Learning will help get us through the Holiday Season that is upon us. Despite the pandemic, many people continue to travel and expand their "bubbles". We understand this and we are not making any judgements on those decisions. However, this does pose a significant increased risk to students and staff when we are conducting in-person instruction. That, along with unrelenting increase of COVID cases, leaves us with no choice but to make this move at this time. By going Full Remote for the next four academic weeks we will be able to get through and well past the Holiday Season. This will give us a chance to reassess how things are in our communities and our area the first week of January and determine if a shift back to our Hybrid Learning Plan is in order at that time.

More detailed information regarding your child's school/grade level Full Remote schedule can be found on the district's website and will continue to be communicated home to you and/or your child from your child's teacher(s). Please be looking for this important and informative information as it will discuss such things as meal distribution, material pick-up and drop-off procedures, attendance procedures, grading, communication processes, specific daily schedules, and other important information that will help you and your child have a positive experience during this remote learning period.

Again, while we regret we have reached this point, we all understand this was a very real possibility. We know our parents and the CUSD #7 Community understands our rationale and that our number one priority is the health and safety of our students, staff, and community. We thank you in advance for your flexibility and cooperation as we continue to move forward during the pandemic.

Let me take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a safe and happy Holiday Season. While this coming holiday season may be very different than what all of us are accustomed to, together we will persevere and overcome these challenges. Stay healthy CUSD #7!

Sincerely,

*R. Shane Owsley*  
R. Shane Owsley