USD 345 Staff & Families:

This letter is to update you on the district's learning environment status and how the latest Shawnee County Health Department's emergency order affects USD 345.

Our goal is to provide on-site learning for as long as possible. The main factors in a decision to transition a building to required remote learning include adequate staffing and COVID transmission. Currently, we are not seeing transmission or outbreaks in classrooms. Only one building has reached the point of inadequate staffing levels (MELC), so the decision was made to temporarily transition that building to required remote. We will continue our mitigation strategies to reduce the spread and will be monitoring the impact in our buildings on a daily basis.

Below, I will recap our current learning environments, the latest COVID numbers for our district, teacher absence reports, updated considerations for our winter sports and activities, and our updated COVID notification process.

Current Learning Environments

Mathes Early Learning Center (PreK): **Required Remote** (Reevaluating to determine status for Nov 16)

Elmont Elementary (K-6): Full On-Site Logan Elementary (K-6): Full On-Site

North Fairview Elementary (K-6): **Full On-Site** Northern Hills Elementary (K-6): **Full On-Site** West Indianola Elementary (K-6): **Full On-Site**

Seaman Middle School (7-8): Hybrid Seaman High School (9-12): Hybrid

Pleasant Hill Learning Campus (7-12): Full On-Site

Weekend COVID numbers may dictate a change to the above learning environments, so please stay tuned to updated announcements via email, our website, and our social media pages. Visit www.seamanschools.org/R2R to stay current with our updated status per building and the R2R plan. We will do our best to notify you as soon as possible with any changes.

COVID Related Numbers for Seaman USD 345

		Leave/		Awaiting test results	Recovered Cases
Employees	11/13/20	31	9	5	8
Students	11/13/20	172	13	8	12

Teacher Absences on 11/13/2020

Date		Filled w/	Filled w/ In-House Coverage or no sub needed	Unfilled Positions	Sub Fill Rate %
11/13/20	59	25	20	14	76.4%

Teacher Projected Absences the week of 11/16/2020 - 11/20/2020*

Day of Week	Teacher Absences	Filled w/	Filled w/ In-House Coverage or no sub needed		Sub Fill Rate %
Monday	32	16	11	5	84.4
Tuesday	32	18	11	3	90.6
Wednesday	28	9	18	1	96.4
Thursday	30	16	12	2	93.3
Friday	35	20	11	4	88.6

^{*}The number of teacher absences for each of the days next week may not include all the absences we will actually have.

Winter Athletics & Activities

With the new community limitations on small gatherings (10) and large events (100), we are making adjustments to our winter sports programs. These adjustments may include team schedules and significant spectator limitations. We continue to be engaged in conversations with city and league schools to determine our final plan of action for winter sports. Once these plans are finalized we will notify all of our parents.

COVID Notifications

The district will begin to send out end-of-day COVID positive briefings per building, rather than our current system of real-time notifications. This revision in our notification process should help reduce confusion as positive cases increase. Due to privacy laws, we are not able to include identifiable information in positive cases. These notifications are meant to keep you informed of the impact in your child's school building.

Conclusion

I am proud of the mitigation efforts our students and staff have implemented in our schools. Unfortunately, the uncontrolled spread throughout our community will render these efforts futile if we all don't step up and do our part outside of our schools. Wear masks, distance, use good hygiene practices, and follow isolation and quarantine protocols if you contract the COVID-19 virus or are a close contact. The health and safety of our students, staff, and community remain our top priorities.

Be well and thank you for your partnership with us in the education of your children,

Dr. Steve Noble Superintendent