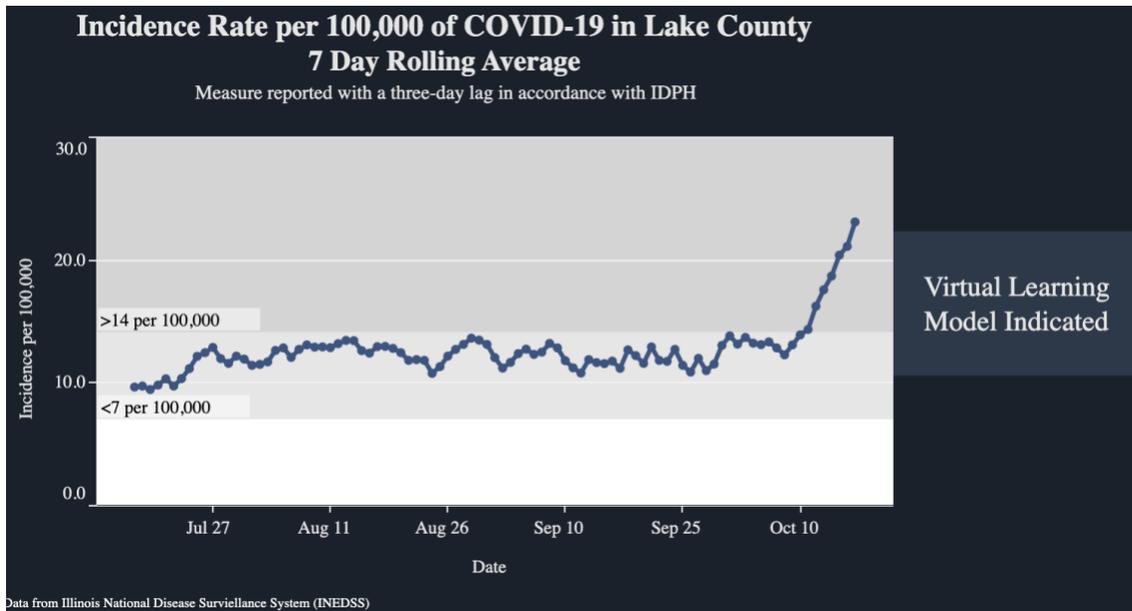




Good evening,

At 1:53 p.m. today, October 20, the Lake County Health Department released a statement titled, [Health Department Recommends Virtual Learning](#). This specific recommendation is based upon concerning data that we have been monitoring over the past couple of weeks. Triggering this shift is the incidence rate (new case rate) in Lake County. For seven consecutive days, the county has seen an incidence rate of more than 14/100,000 residents per day; or, roughly 100 new cases per 100,000 residents per week. Following the Northern Illinois Return to School Metrics plan, the threshold of more than 14/100,000 new cases per day is defined as 'substantial community transmission.' This equates to an increased risk of COVID-19 virus transmission.



As recommended by the Lake County Health Department, we are looking at taking an adaptive pause on our phased in plan. ***In other words, effective Monday, October 26, ALL of our learning will be fully remote.*** Unfortunately, this means that our Remote Learning Student Supervision Centers will be closed and we will pause the Champions program at Oakland Elementary. While we only have small groups of students in-person at this time, all of our in-person learning will be paused as well.

In speaking directly to the Executive Director of the Lake County Health Department and in close communication with other Lake County Superintendents, we have decided to enact this adaptive pause for a minimum of 2-weeks or 10-school-days. This means that November 9 would be the first date we would look to resume our current level of programming. In determining the actual date of return, we will need to see the incidence rate metric drop below

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Hillcrest Elementary School

433 E. Depot Street
Antioch, IL 60002
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Oakland Elementary School

818 E. Grass Lake Road
Lake Villa, IL 60046
847-838-8601

W.C. Petty Elementary School

850 Highview Drive
Antioch, IL 60002
847-838-8101

Antioch Upper Grade School

800 Highview Drive
Antioch, IL 60002
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14/100,000 residents per day for seven consecutive days. As we continue to monitor data, we will be in communication regarding its trend.

Please know that we will continue our planning regarding our phase-in model during this time. We hope to finalize our hybrid model, finish our planning document, and identify the groups for the next and subsequent phases. As these details are worked out, we will be sharing them. Ultimately, we are focused on and eager to get our students back in-person to the extent possible when it is logistically feasible and determined to be safe to do so.

In addition to incidence rate, the Illinois Department of Public Health is keeping a close eye on the Region 9 (Lake and McHenry Counties) data related to positivity rate (positive tests/total tests), COVID-like illness hospital admissions, and hospital bed availability. This chart below show what would trigger region-wide mitigation strategies invoked by IDPH:

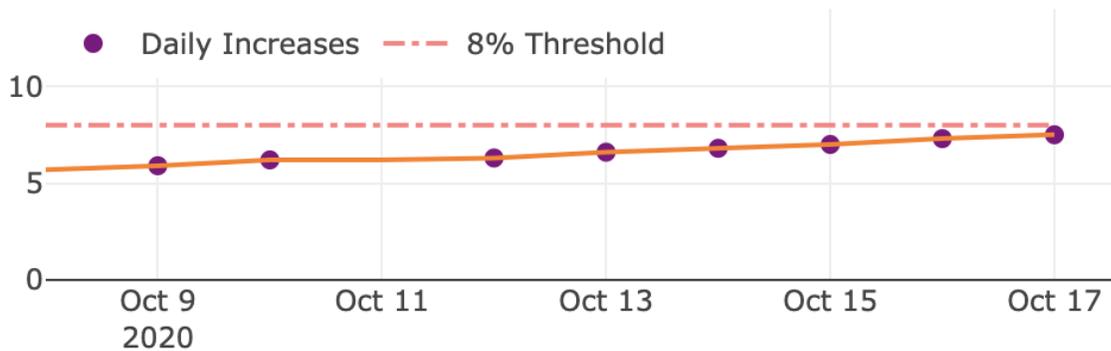
What Could Cause a Region to Become More Restrictive?

- Sustained increase in 7-day rolling average (7 out of 10 days) in the positivity rate
- AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
- Sustained 7-day increase (7 out of 10 days) in hospital admissions for a COVID-19 like illness
- Reduction in hospital capacity threatening surge capabilities (ICU capacity or medical/surgical beds under 20%)
- OR
- Three consecutive days averaging greater than or equal to 8% positivity rate (7 day rolling)

While hospital capacity data indicates 4 of the last 10 days of increased COVID-like illness hospital admissions, the 7-day rolling average of test positivity has been increasing (8 of the last 10 days with increases). The most recent data point on the graph below indicated a test positivity in Region 9 of 7.5%. As explained above, if that number crosses the 8% threshold for three consecutive days, that would trigger more restrictive mitigation measures.

Test Positivity 7 Day Rolling Average

8 Days of Positivity Increases



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ANTIOCH SCHOOL DISTRICT 34

Inspiring personal excellence.

Dr. Bradford Hubbard, Superintendent

We are trying to give families time to make arrangements for this adaptive pause, therefore it is going into effect on Monday, October 26. This decision is congruent and in coordination with neighboring school districts.

The safety of our students, staff, and community have been and will continue to be our number one priority. We will continue to closely monitor data, but also plan for our hopeful and eventual return. We are committed to making decisions that are the best and right ones for us and our community. I do not take the responsibility lightly. I do feel the sense of urgency to return, but the conditions have to be right for the health, safety, learning, and continuity of instruction we are all striving for.

We are urging all staff, students, and community members to continue following the 3 W's to slow the spread of COVID-19:

- Wear a mask
- Wash your hands
- Watch your distance

We are truly all in this together and together is the only way we will see the other side of it.

Humbly,
Dr. Bradford Hubbard

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