



River Forest  
Public Schools

Administration Building  
7776 Lake Street  
River Forest, IL 60305  
708-771-8282

September 14, 2020

Danielle Hanken  
312-221-8485

Communicated via email to: [daniellehanken@yahoo.com](mailto:daniellehanken@yahoo.com)

Dear Ms. Hanken,

This letter is in response to your electronic Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request received in my office on September 10, 2020.

*Request: 1) RECORDS REQUESTED: This is a FOIA request, can you please provide the names of the people on the advisory committee relative to when it's safe to return to in-person learning?*

Response: Please see attached.

As Superintendent of the District, I am responsible for granting and denying the requests for records under the Freedom of Information Act. Please be aware that this response to your request is pursuant to my understanding of your FOIA request.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed J. Condon", written in a cursive style.

Edward J. Condon, Ph.D.  
Superintendent



## FOIA Request

**Danielle Hanken** <daniellehanken@yahoo.com>

Thu, Sep 10, 2020 at 4:08 PM

To: Dawne Simmons <simmons@district90.org>, Ed Condon <condone@district90.org>

Hi Ed and Dawne,

Thank you for your email below with all the updates.

This is a FOIA request, can you please provide the names of the people on the advisory committee relative to when it's safe to return to in-person learning?

Thank you,

Danielle Hanken  
312-221-8485

On Sep 3, 2020, at 6:30 PM, Dawne Simmons <[simmons@district90.org](mailto:simmons@district90.org)> wrote:

<mime-attachment.jpg>

Dear District 90 Families, Faculty, and Staff,

This message is part of our regular communications intended to keep you informed of developments taking place across the school district.

### **COVID-19 Advisory Panel**

District 90 has formed a COVID-19 Community Advisory Panel with the goal of investigating what will be necessary to transition students back to in-person learning, as soon as it is safe to do so. The panel has been formed as a superintendent's advisory group. It will be convening to address the following question: *"What elements are needed for District 90 to return students to in-school instruction in a safe manner?"*

The Advisory Panel is composed of 32 individuals from numerous stakeholder groups across the school community, including PTO leaders, teachers, River Forest physicians (who are also parents), school and district administrators, River Forest Education Association (RFEA) leadership, staff members, and Roosevelt Middle School students. Individuals were asked to participate based upon their formal leadership roles in the District, specialized expertise, or unique perspectives (such as those from our students, staff, and families). Our intention is to ensure that the panel has a thorough understanding of the specific challenges we are facing in response to the pandemic so that the group's subsequent recommendations are both responsive and actionable.

The Advisory Panel has five meetings scheduled between September 10 and 29, and is expected to issue its final recommendations by October 1. These recommendations will be presented to the Board of Education and community at the Committee of the Whole Meeting scheduled for October 6. Periodic communication updates will be provided to the D90 community about the group's progress over the coming weeks.

### **Open House Update**

The Open Houses for Willard and Lincoln Schools will be on Tuesday, September 15, with the Roosevelt Open House being held on Thursday, September 17. A change in this event will be the virtual dimension of this fall tradition. Families can expect to learn about what teachers expect from students and

parents/guardians and how families can support their students. Additional information will be forthcoming regarding how families will be able to participate in this important event at their child's school.

### **Winter Break Survey**

This note is a reminder about the District 90 survey regarding the school calendar, specifically the dates for Winter Break. At their August Board of Education meeting, the OPRF High School (D200) Board of Education shifted the dates for the high school Winter Break to start on Thursday, December 24, and end on Friday, January 8. Before this change, D90 and D200 previously shared the same dates for Winter Break.

Please consider participating in this short online survey that asks only two questions. The District's Calendar Committee will review the survey results and make a recommendation to the Board of Education. The Calendar Committee is comprised of D90 parents, teachers, administrators, and an RFEA co-president and serves as an advisory panel to the Board of Education. Families, please click this link to participate in the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VVCS97Q>. The survey will be closed at noon on Sunday, September 6, 2020.

### **Technology Update**

The Technology Department has been addressing hundreds of helpdesk and technology assistance requests since school started. With students' devices as the priority, these staff members have been very busy making sure that student iPads are up and running so that students can take full advantage of remote instruction. The unprecedented demand for helpdesk support and other assistance has required that the Technology Department triage requests. Your patience and understanding of this situation are much appreciated.

**On another technology note:** Families who may have difficulty affording a broadband internet connection at their homes can secure such connectivity through AT&T and Comcast/Xfinity. Both companies offer a reduced price plan for families who meet their income qualifications. New customers may be able to secure free internet for a limited time.

For more information about the Comcast/Xfinity program, please click this link: [Comcast/Xfinity Low Cost Internet](#). The application for the Comcast/Xfinity program can be accessed through this link: [Comcast/Xfinity Application](#). Information and the application for the AT&T low-cost program can be access through this link: [AT&T Low Cost Internet](#).

Also, the Village of River Forest recently hosted a webinar with representatives from AT&T and Comcast/Xfinity to discuss their specific company's offerings. The recorded 30-minute presentation can be viewed by clicking this link: <https://www.vrf.us/events/event/1841>.

### **Positive Youth Development (PYD) Update**

District 90 is a member of the Positive Youth Development (PYD) group, which is a community coalition that is identifying and implementing solutions to underage drinking and substance abuse. PYD is overseen by the Oak Park Township and provides services to residents of River Forest and Oak Park.

The PYD coalition is conducting a community survey of families with students in grades 8-12 to help guide prevention strategies in the community. The survey is anonymous and confidential.

To participate in this brief survey, please click this link: [PYD Parent Survey](#)

### **Remote Learning Handbook Supplement Acknowledgment**

This message is a reminder: We are asking families to read and acknowledge that they have reviewed the contents of the Remote Learning Handbook Supplement. To digitally acknowledge your review of the Handbook Supplement, please follow these directions:

- Open your PowerSchool account (<https://d90.powerschool.com/public/> )
- At the top of the page on the left-hand side, you'll find the name(s) of your child(ren) enrolled in D90
- Along the left-hand side of the screen, under the "Information" heading (near the bottom), click on "E-Collect Forms"
- Once E-Collect Forms opens, look for "02 - D90 Acknowledgement Form 20-21."
- Please complete this form for each student enrolled in a D90 school
- Please remember to give your consent for electronic signatures, sign, date, and submit the form.

The Handbook was created to help families prepare for the new school year with remote instruction. It represents a practical guide on how remote instruction will function in D90 and can be downloaded by clicking this link: [Remote Learning Handbook Supplement](#).

### Immunizations

The deadline to submit proof of all mandated immunizations and medical exams for students, including eye exams, is October 15, 2020. This deadline has not been extended by the Illinois State Board of Education and remains in effect. The deadline applies to all D90 students, even during remote instruction. All students enrolled in school in Illinois are required to show proof of compliance with grade-level requirements. The mandatory physicals must be completed and submitted on the Certificate of Child Health Exam Form, which can be accessed by clicking on this link: [Certificate of Child Health Examination](#). Please scan and email the completed Certificate of Child Health Examination to your student's school nurse.

### "All in Illinois" Campaign

You may have seen the *All in Illinois* lawn signs and posters in your travels throughout the Village. District 90 and the Village of River Forest encourage all residents and visitors to wear a mask when in public. Masks are required to enter all D90 buildings for any reason. This effort is part of the *All in Illinois* campaign, which has also been airing public service announcements on local television stations. Equally as important, wearing a mask while in public or school buildings sets a positive example for our students and encourages them to care about the health and well-being of others in the community. Please wear a mask when you're out in public to protect yourself and others. Click this link to view a special message about wearing a mask in public: [Mask Wearing in All in Illinois](#)

Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we navigate this unconventional time, and please don't hesitate to reach out to us with questions or feedback.

Sincerely,

Dawne Simmons  
Communications and Community Outreach Coordinator

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River Forest School District 90 would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact River Forest School District 90 directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students, and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.

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