



November 13, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Starting on Monday, November 16, all third grade students who have been attending school face-to-face will transition to remote learning through Wednesday, November 25. Third grade students currently in face-to-face instruction will return to their classrooms on Monday, November 30.

The district is making this transition to remote learning due to the lack of staffing capacity. Several of our third grade teachers have been identified as "close contacts" of confirmed cases of COVID-19 and have been required to quarantine at home. The entire contact tracing process and the case investigation has been completed. There was no evidence of transmission at Sylvester Elementary or within our school district. All of the cases are a result of close contacts that occurred outside of the school setting.

The school district continues to be a safe learning environment for our staff and students. Less than 1% of all positive COVID cases in Berrien County have been associated with a school setting. Our school district will continue to be vigilant about the mitigation protocols and practices that are currently implemented. I ask that our Shamrock families continue to emphasize safe and healthy practices outside of the school environment. These practices will help to reduce the risk of transmission in our communities.

Thank you for your continued support of our efforts to keep our school buildings open for face-to-face learning. Maintaining safe schools will also allow the school district to continue offering the many valued school related activities our students enjoy and look forward to. Your trust in our staff and our school leaders is valued and appreciated!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David J. Eichberg". The signature is written in a cursive style.

David Eichberg, Superintendent