

COMSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dr. Jeffrey J. Thoenes, Superintendent
ThoenesJ@ComstockPS.org



November 24, 2020

Dear Comstock Families,

After the November 13 Board meeting, I announced that the district would be shifting to a virtual-only instructional model until December 7, due in large part to a lack of qualified substitute teachers caused by the coronavirus pandemic. On Friday, November 16 of that same week, I sent a second letter to families in which I communicated details of the district's response to the statewide "Pause to Save Lives" as ordered that same day by the State Health Director Robert Gordon. Unfortunately, data from the Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services Department released this week now show that the virus is even more widespread than previously expected.

As a result of these ongoing health and safety challenges, and after consultation with Board President Pamela Dickinson, **I announced at last night's November 23 Board meeting that I was extending the virtual-only instructional model to the end of the 1st semester on Friday, January 22, 2021.** As we move forward into the holiday season, there is the possibility of an even wider spread of the virus due to traditional family gatherings and holiday travel. I will monitor the situation carefully and will present my findings and recommendations to the Board of Education at the January 11 Board meeting.

The district will continue to serve school meals during this full virtual mode. Families seeking more information on food distribution should check our website at www.ComstockPS.org/eat.

If conditions change or there are new clarifications regarding existing State health and safety orders, I will update our community in a timely fashion.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dr. Jeffrey J. Thoenes". The signature is fluid and cursive, matching the professional yet approachable tone of the letter.

Dr. Jeffrey J. Thoenes
Superintendent

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