



# COFFEYVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## BOARD OF EDUCATION OFFICE

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[www.cvilleschools.com](http://www.cvilleschools.com)

This week has seen our COVID-19 numbers triple over just last Friday. Yesterday alone we had over 60 positive cases, most of these at our middle and high school. In light of our inability to keep up with the test to stay and learn program with so many close contacts (yesterday we were over 200) and a lack of substitute teachers to fill in for sick staff, we will be moving to remote learning for students grades 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> beginning Friday, 1/14 through Friday, 1/21. This decision was not an easy one but after collaborating with our health experts we believe it is the best decision to make at this time. Teachers are giving specific instructions to students today.

For households with no internet, we have a limited number of hotspots available. They are at the Board of Education office located at 615 Ellis. They will be handed out on a first come first served basis.

We know this is not ideal for anyone, but we feel it's in the best interest of mitigating the spread within our schools for both students and staff. We are hopeful the COVID case numbers in the community will have decreased by the time we come back to face-to-face learning Monday, 1/24. What we have seen with the newest variant is that it spreads much more rapidly and runs through the population much faster than previous versions.

Kansas Commissioner of Education Dr. Randy Watson recently shared his concerns about school districts being able to maintain adequate staffing levels to keep the doors open throughout the next couple of months. We have seen increased staff absenteeism recently due to Covid. We are monitoring staffing levels very closely. One of the areas of greatest need is substitute teachers. It is essential to have a qualified, caring adult in every classroom. If you know someone who is interested in learning more about becoming a substitute teacher, please go to our website for more information. [www.cvilleschools.com](http://www.cvilleschools.com)

We appreciate those parents who have shown respect, demonstrated empathy and have had patience as you've interacted with staff members, particularly regarding COVID issues. Our health staff, office staff, child nutrition staff, teachers and principals have shown an enormous dedication, commitment and professionalism throughout the pandemic. Thank you for being kind and respectful to our staff who are doing their jobs, even when they sometimes have to deliver unwelcome news.

Valuing Individuals, Celebrating Learning, Improving Life!  
USD 445 will provide a happy, caring, hopeful environment that will empower children to achieve their greatest potential.

### USD #445 Mission Statement

Building on our culturally diverse community, USD 445 will prepare all students for life-long learning by providing resources for a comprehensive quality education in a safe environment that promotes high academic achievement and responsible citizenship in a global society.