



To the TFD 215 community:

## CONTINUATION OF COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Late on Friday, February 4, 2022, a Circuit Court judge in Sangamon County issued a temporary restraining order against the Governor's enforcement of certain executive orders and rules of the Illinois Department of Health (IDPH) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) as they relate to the requirements of masks, vaccinations, and testing in schools with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, Thornton Fractional Township High School District 215 was not a party to the lawsuit in which that order was entered and, therefore, is not subject to that order. In fact, efforts to make the lawsuit a class action affecting all Illinois school districts were not successful.

This District has previously put in place protocols for masking, vaccination requirements and testing requirements relating to the COVID-19 pandemic in order to facilitate the operation of the schools and the safety of students, staff, visitors and other participants in the district's programs. Those protocols were implemented under the independent authority of the Board of Education to adopt rules for the governance of the schools in the district. In its Policy #4:182, the Board has already committed the district to adherence, not only to the IDPH guidelines, but also those of the United States Centers for Disease Control and the Cook County Department of Public Health. Those guidelines are still in effect, and so are our District's protocols.

Based on this directive from the Board, and regardless of the status of the State-imposed health and safety mandates as the litigation in Sangamon County proceeds, the Administration of District 215 will continue to enforce our existing health and safety protocols as they relate to COVID-19. The safety of all persons in the Thornton Fractional High School community is our highest priority.

As the litigation proceeds and our Board has the opportunity to review developments, we will be reviewing all our safety procedures. But until then, we ask that all students, parents, staff, and visitors to our District's facilities to continue to abide by the rules we have set in place for the safety of all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sophia Jones-Redmond'.

Dr. Sophia Jones-Redmond  
Superintendent of Schools  
[www.tfd215.org](http://www.tfd215.org)