



Kane County Health Department Recommends Adaptive Pause for Kane County Schools

November 17, 2020 – Kane County Health Department Executive Director Barbara Jeffers recommends that Kane County public and private schools take an “adaptive pause” for the period of November 23 to December 4, 2020 to help stem the spread of COVID-19. The health department also recommends that athletics and other school activities should be suspended during that period as well.

“Kane County’s positivity rate is 16.7%, based on data for the week ending November 7th” said Jeffers. “Additionally, our case count is 563 cases per 100,000 population. Over the weekend, the youth case count climbed over 628 per 100,000 population. It is time to take a pause in order to have a discussion with school authorities to implement strategies to further mitigate transmission. Our hospitals are filling up and the numbers continue to surge.”

According to the Illinois Department of Public Health, an Adaptive Pause “is a strategy that allows for movement into any level of remote learning to prevent disease transmission during a pandemic. An Adaptive Pause may result in delayed reopening at the start of a specific school term or a pivot to remote learning once the school year is underway for school officials to have time to plan for next steps with parents, teachers and staff. An Adaptive Pause may also include a pivot to remote learning for a classroom, a grade level, a wing, a building or school- or district-wide remote learning. At all levels of community transmission, school officials may need an Adaptive Pause to consult with their LHD (local health department) to understand community transmission metrics and to plan for how to respond to a given scenario.”

(more)

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"An adaptive pause would help provide hospitals relief from the surge of COVID patient admissions we are currently experiencing," said John Diederich, president and CEO of Rush Copley Medical Center. "While we are hopeful about the recent momentum in vaccine development, our community needs to continue to adhere to proven measures like wearing masks and social distancing to help bend the curve again."

For more information, see <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/IDPH-Adaptive-Pause-Metrics.pdf>.
Visit the KCHD website at KaneHealth.com or call the health department at 630-208-3801.

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