



January 13, 2022

Dear EPS families,

This letter is to make you aware that due to a large number of staff illnesses and unfilled sub-jobs throughout our district, we have made the difficult decision to cancel all classes Friday, January 14. After evaluating our situation with over 300 staff members absent throughout the district, it was determined that there were not enough staff members available to pivot to remote learning in one day. Therefore, tomorrow will be a NO SCHOOL day for all students, teachers, and staff members. Our goal is for all students to return to in-person instruction on Tuesday, January 18 following the Martin Luther King Jr. federal holiday.

This action was taken following many days of reassigning all available staff members including counselors, media assistants, content specialists, site and central office administrators to cover classes. In the end, we are still not able to sustain a safe and productive learning environment. The federal holiday on Monday, combined with no school on Friday, will allow four days for people to rest and recover.

While at school today, Thursday, January 13, teachers will ensure students go home with their devices, chargers, and any materials they would likely need in the event that their individual school is still severely impacted by heavy staff absences and unable to hold in-person learning on Tuesday. If your child's school requires a transition to remote learning any day next week, you will receive an email from your child's teacher containing information about assignments for your child.

Friday's closure will be treated as one of the inclement weather days that is built into our school calendar, meaning this day will not have to be made up at the end of the year and there is no remote work expected of students other than typical homework assignments.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time, and we look forward to seeing our students return on Tuesday, January 18.

Sincerely,

Angela Grunewald
Superintendent