

Friday, December 4, 2020



Sara

Opened the call with ...

- Deep Breaths.
- As we get closer to vaccine availability there are still many issues to address before knowing what this will mean for schools.
- Know the questions to ask as districts consdier implementing COVID testing.

Kevin

Discussed updates to the CDC recommendation for quarantine timelines...

- The CDC has adjusted quarantine timeline recommendations likely in an effort to balance health and safety with economic and other needs.
- These recommendations. which have not yet been adopted by the IDPH, allow individuals to quarantine for 7 or 10 days rather than 14 days when certain requirements are met.

We did not come to fear the future. We came to shape it.

Stephanie

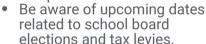


Discussed Tier 3 Mitigation on schools & considerations for grading practices...

- ISBE released guidance clarifying that Illinois Tier 3 Mitigation requirements apply to non-instructional activities, but do not apply to instructional activities.
- Traditional grading practices may be difficult to implement during COVID and since grading practices are a local decision this may be a good time to be creative and collaborate with teachers to determine how grades can best reflect student learning during COVID.

Mohammed

Discussed OMA, FOIA and important dates...



- Districts may see an increase in FOIA requests related to COVID and must be aware of FERPA/ISSRA requirements.
- Court reiterated public bodies will not be assessed fees in response to a FOIA violation unless the violation was intentional.
- A recent PAC decision found that a public body may violate the OMA by muting a sidebar conversation during a meeting conducted remotely, even when the length of the conversation is short in duration.

Laura



Discussed EPA updates on cleaning practice during COVID...

- The EPA released updated guidance that reminds districts to use cleaning and disinfecting products that are EPA-approved and to use products as directed.
- The guidance also provides reminders on effective practices to address ventilation and indoor air quality.

Darcy



Discussed addressing the needs of students who age out of special education services during the school year and guidance on Tier 3 mitigation and school board meetings...

- While there is talk that Illinois may allow students to continue services to the end of the year in which they turn 22, this has not yet become a law.
- There are a variety of factors districts must consider when responding to parent requests for students to continue to receive services after their 22 birthday during the pandemic.
- While Tier 3 Mitigation does not apply to school board meetings, we recently released a newsletter that can be found on our website and provides districts with meeting considerations during the mitigation order.

-President Barack Obama

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