



Bulldog families,

November 9, 2020

This fall, the Nebraska Department of Education provided guidance that allows school districts more flexibility with instructional hours during this unique year because of COVID-19. This flexibility allows educational staff the time to do critical professional learning and work time to support the additional load of instructing both in-person and virtually.

Based on this, the Gering School Board of Education has made the decision to modify the 2020-21 school calendar. We are adding two additional days to the Thanksgiving break for students – there will be **no school for ALL PreK-12 students** on Monday, November 23rd and Tuesday, November 24th. These dates will shift to staff workdays for all GPS staff.

As you are likely aware, the number of active COVID-19 cases in our community and buildings are growing and these workdays will also allow district personnel time for deep cleaning within schools.

The physical, social and emotional health of our students and staff continues to be a priority for Gering Public Schools. We encourage you to spend this Thanksgiving holiday time doing activities that bring you joy while also being mindful of COVID safety recommendations.

Finally, the community risk dial did move to RED today. Although this shift has occurred, we still intend to operate with in-person learning throughout the Gering Public School District. However, we are restricting all visitors in GPS buildings, including the Central Administrative office, during school hours effective immediately. As always, we encourage all Bulldog families, to mask up, wash hands frequently and stay home if you are feeling ill.

Stay safe and well, Bulldogs!