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“Do it for our kids”

transmission in the community, that is then coming into school.

“Please as a community continue to follow what the professionals are telling us. Our goal has to be to continue school, we know it isn't our best product, but it is better than full distance-learning,” said Belcastro.

LSSD and Cook County School District superintendent Bill Crandall has been approved to extend his medical leave through the end of November. Crandall underwent brain surgery for a tumor this Fall and has been on leave since, while he continues to receive treatment at Mayo Clinic in Rochester.

As of press time Lake County has logged a total of 126 positive Covid-19 cases, and Cook County's count is at 17.

MPR has recently put out an article clearly explaining the different types of Covid-19 tests, where to find them, and when you should get tested. <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2020/10/24/covid-tests-explained>.

Health Data Critical to Medical Research: All of Us Research Program

By Kitty Mayo

The All of Us research program has been sending out postcards and running television ads recently in an effort to recruit participants.

All of Us has been ongoing since 2018 and is run by the National Institute of Health. Locally, Essentia Health is partnering with NIH to collect information and lab specimens to contribute to medical research.

The idea behind All of Us is to include at least 1 million people across the country. Participants answer health-related questions on surveys, share electronic health records, as well as potentially donating blood, urine and DNA samples. The long-term project is expected to last at least 10 years, and hopes to create a robust resource for researchers.

So far about 350,000 people are participating, and the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota is responsible for storing, collecting, and analysing specimens.

One hope of this program is to enroll a diverse range of people, to gather data from many groups of people, including groups

that have not been well-represented in medical research in the past.

The data will be used to conduct research for breakthrough treatments, medical advances, and scientific progress. The information is also intended to contribute to further developing participatory research that leads to precision-, or personalized-medicine. Personalized medicine has a better shot at selecting the right treatments, reducing side effects and improving overall health care for an individual.

While Essentia is partnering with NIH for this study, you do not have to be a patient in the Essentia system to participate.

During the pandemic the All of Us program has been able to contribute to research on Covid-19, testing participant samples for antibodies, and using health record data to find out more about how Covid-19 affects people differently.

For more information on the All of Us study, call 1-877-340-8058, or visit www.EssentiaHealth.org/AllofUs

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