

**Community High School District 128
Swimming Pool Closure
Frequently Asked Questions**

1. Why are the pools closing?

Federal law requires that all public swimming pools meet the standards outlined in the federal Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act of 2007. Illinois set the date of Oct. 1, 2011 as the deadline for being compliant. The overwhelming backlog has caused a delay by the IDPH, forcing the district to close the pools pending approval. To read more about the IDPH and the backlog situation, visit:

<http://www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/swimmingpools.htm>

2. When does the District anticipate being able to complete the work and re-open the pools?

The work will begin immediately following approval from the IDPH. Once we receive approval, we will make every effort to reopen the pools as soon as possible.

3. Why wasn't this work completed sooner?

Work cannot begin before receiving plan approval from the IDPH. Since Spring, the District has submitted several versions of a compliance plan for approval with the IDPH. The lack of feedback and the overwhelming backlog has caused a delay in pool approvals.

4. How will the District 128 swim programs be able to continue to practice?

The LHS and VHHS Athletic Directors are working with other area approved area facilities to schedule practice times for our athletes.

5. Are other school pools noncompliant as well?

According to the IDPH website, a number of pools throughout Illinois remain noncompliant.

6. How will this impact a student who is scheduled to be in the pool during his/her PE class?

Classes will be relocated and will complete a different unit for the duration of the pool closure.

7. What is the best way to receive ongoing updates about this situation?

Parents and students will receive updates from coaches/teachers. Information will also be posted to the LHS and VHHS Athletic Department web sites.

8. Is there anything parents or community members can do to help the District move forward with the approval process?

Parents who wish to express their dissatisfaction with the backlog of approvals, lack of feedback on plans, and the impact the pool closures are having on the District 128 swim programs are encouraged to contact the Illinois Department of Public Health at 217-782-5830.