RETURN TO SCHOOL Health & Safety







Safety Plan Overview

- The purpose of this plan is to outline return-to-school guidelines and re-opening of schools following federal, state, and local recommendations. These have been carefully considered to address and promote our community's safety, health, and welfare and are based on CDC Guidance.
- COVID-19 mandates and recommendations are ever-changing as additional information is shared by our local / state health departments and state/national regulatory agencies, which, in turn, will change our community's practices.





Facilities and Operations

Symptom Screening

- All students, staff, and visitors should either self-certify or be certified by a District staff member BEFORE
 they enter a school building.
- Parents/ guardians will be asked to provide a Self Certification Form that verifies the absence of symptoms and records temperature each day a student attends school in-person.
 - Temperatures will be checked by staff upon entry to the building.
- If a student has not completed the self-certification on a repeated basis, they may be asked to participate in remote instruction only.
 - IF your child is sick, please stay home.
- To help identify if a student completed the self-certification, they will present a specific lanyard or ID card before entering the building. The presented item will have a color associated with identifying if they completed the certification.



Facilities and Operations

Face Coverings and Masks

- Face coverings are required on all school premises.
- Medical documentation will be required and reviewed carefully for any exceptions.
- Students and staff are expected to come to school with a mask each day. A mask will be provided to students and staff if needed.
- Please reference the Return to Learn Plan for approved face coverings.
- Clear face coverings and face shields may be used by staff under specific conditions.
- District mask wearing policy and procedures.





Facilities and Operations

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- PPE Equipment Available for Staff:
 - Gowns
 - Gloves
 - Goggles
 - Face Coverings (mask or face shield)
 - Disinfectant wipes
 - Infrared Thermometers
 - Hand Sanitizers





Facilities and Operations

Distribution of PPE

- **Tier One:** Staff that does not have direct contact with students or staff that do not perform direct student care activities that would expose them to bodily fluids.
- **Tier Two**: Staff that has direct contact with students and performs direct student care activities that would expose them to bodily fluids. This may include teachers, paraprofessionals, substitute teachers, secretaries, related service staff, and librarians.
- **Tier Three**: Nursing Staff and any staff member that will be assigned to assist in the nursing office or sick student isolation rooms. This may include building administrators, nurses, emergency response teams/crisis teams, social workers, and custodians.



Facilities and Operations

Student and Staff Movement Patterns

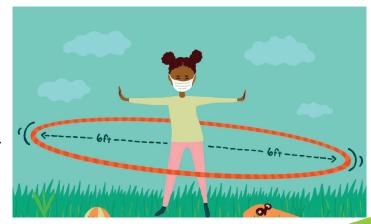
- A schedule of restroom usage will be developed and adhered at Middleton and McCracken to ensure minimal movement.
- The District will use hallway procedures to adhere to social distancing requirements and IDPH limitations on gathering sizes when possible.
 - Limiting the number of students and staff within hallways
 - Minimizing the amount of student and staff movement within the schools.
 - Designate one-way paths in hallways and designate certain staircases one-way only, where possible.
 - Placing floor markings to delineate 6-foot distance between students in locations where they line up.
 - Removing furniture or other items that may encourage students and staff from gathering in certain areas.
 - Suspending the use of lockers for students.



Facilities and Operations

Outdoor and Common Spaces

- Outdoor spaces will be used to encourage distancing, reduce building usage.
- Teaching staff and building administrators are encouraged to use outdoor teaching opportunities as weather permits.
- Staff is required to practice social distancing within common spaces and all furniture in the common spaces will be removed. Examples of common space are:
 - Teacher's Lounge (this varies by building)
 - Copier Room





Facilities and Operations

Transportation and Cleaning of Buses

- ISBE and IDPH guidance state that no more than 50 individuals may be on a bus at one time this includes the bus driver and staff.
 - Students, bus driver, and staff will be required to wear a face-covering.
 - All students will be required to maintain social distancing to the greatest extent possible.
 - Assigned seating will take place to help with contact tracing.
 - When possible students from the same household will sit together.
 - School buses will be deep cleaned before each route.



Facilities and Operations

Food Service

- The district will be providing lunch at the buildings for our in-person students.
- There will still be a lunch drop off every Monday to provide families with five lunches for the entire week, per student. Food Service routes and times will be shared on the district's website and may be updated if needed.





Facilities and Operations

Visitors

The District is limiting outside visitors in buildings to essential visitors. Any person
who is not an employee of District 73.5 will be required to go through a
self-certification form and have their temperature taken. Visitors must have a
confirmed appointment and follow all safety protocols, including wearing a mask at
all times and following social distancing guidelines.





Facilities and Operations

Hand Hygiene

- Schools will have procedures to ensure frequent and proper hand hygiene as follows:
 - Upon arrival and departure from school
 - Upon arrival to and departure from a common space or classroom
 - After blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing
 - Following restroom use
 - Upon return from outdoor space, playground, or physical education
 - Before and after routine care for another person, such as a child
 - After contact with a person who is sick
 - Following glove removal



Facilities and Operations

Cleaning and Sanitation

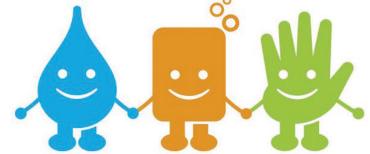
- Building Cleaning Procedures and Sanitation
 - o Common areas, fixtures, door handles, light switches, or other "high touchpoints," will be cleaned hourly OR daily.
 - Buildings and classrooms will be deep cleaned on Wednesday and Friday, based on CDC protocols.
 - Each day the classrooms will be cleaned
 - The District has purchased electrostatic spray cleaners.
 - Additionally, all buildings and classrooms will have extra cleaning supplies.
 - Filters in ventilation systems are being changed per month, instead of quarterly, and systems are being monitored closely.
 - Fresh air exchange will be increased in buildings across the district.
 - The District passed an air quality test, which approves individuals in the building.



Facilities and Operations

Signage

 Signs/posters reminding students, staff, and visitors about the importance of face coverings, social distancing, hand hygiene, etc. have been posted at entry points, classrooms, buses, bathrooms, hallways, and common areas in English and other languages are predominantly spoken within the district.





Facilities and Operations

Learning Environment

- Classrooms will be configured to provide for 6 feet of social distancing to the greatest extent possible.
- All furniture that is not necessary to the learning environment will be removed.
- Each student will be assigned seating at a clean desk.
- All student desks will face the same direction; there will be no grouping of desks.
- Clear dividers will be placed on student and teacher desks to provide an additional safety measure for students and staff.



Facilities and Operations

Arrival and Dismissal

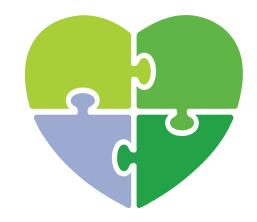
- Schools will designate multiple student entry and exit points to provide adequate social distancing and minimize overcrowding of students at each entry point.
- All students will have temperature checks before entering the buildings.
- Upon entry to school buildings, all students will be checked to ensure proper mask-wearing
- All students will immediately report to their classrooms.
- Student lockers or locker rooms will not be in use.
- Schools will assign adequate outside and hallway supervision.
- Students are to leave school property immediately at the end of the school day.
- Student pick-up will be coordinated to support social distancing guidelines to the greatest extent possible.



Facilities and Operations

COVID Symptoms at School

- Students and staff exhibiting one or more
 COVID-like symptom will be immediately isolated and evaluated before being sent home.
- Individuals who have undergone testing should remain home away from others while waiting for COVID-19 test results.





Facilities and Operations

Quarantine Requirements

- If a person fails the symptom screening or temperature check, experiences prolonged exposure to someone with COVID-19, or is diagnosed with COVID-19 through appropriate tests or medical procedures, isolation or quarantine may be required.
- Isolation/quarantine may range from 10 to 14 days, or more, depending upon the level of exposure or circumstances, and per the guidance of the Skokie Health Department.
- Isolation/quarantine mandated by the Skokie Health Department or Illinois Department of Public Health, or the school district may also require a physician release and/or a negative test result within the 48 hours immediately preceding the return to school.



Facilities and Operations

IDPH Exclusion Document

• The District will use the Illinois Department of Public Health exclusion guidance as a reference to determine when ill students and staff may return to the building.

Siblings and Household Members

 If one household member is being evaluated for COVID-19, the rest of the household must be quarantined until an alternative diagnosis is made or a negative result is received.



Facilities and Operations

Positive Cases

 All students and staff are required to provide the District with immediate notification of a positive case. This notification should be sent to the Interim Superintendents, building nurse, and building administrator.



Facilities and Operations

Close Contacts

- "Close contact" means the individual was within 6 feet of the person who tested positive for COVID-19 or is suspected of having COVID-19 infection for at least 15 minutes cumulatively over 24-hours while the individual was infectious.
- Close contacts will also be excluded from school.





Facilities and Operations

Notification Communication Plan

 The District has a communication plan in effect to alert parents/guardians and staff if any individual tests positive.





Facilities and Operations

Return to School After Exposure

- <u>Per IDPH</u>, a person who has had a positive COVID-19 diagnostic test or COVID-like symptoms without COVID-19 testing and was exposed to a confirmed case (a "probable case") must present a Release from Isolation letter from the Skokie Health Department (SHD) or the District must receive notification from the SHD via phone, secure email or fax.
- <u>Per IDPH</u>, close contact to a confirmed or probable case must present a Release from Quarantine letter from the SHD, or the District must receive notification from the SHD via phone, secure email, or fax.