



## Executive Summary Board of Education Meeting

Date: May 10, 2021  
Topic: District Opening Plan 2021-2022  
Prepared by: Dr. Kimberly Nasshan

### Recommended for:

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- Action
- Discussion
- Information

### Purpose and Background:

The intent of this document is to provide a recommendation to the Board of Education for the opening of the 21-22 school year. Following the most recent guidance provided by the [Illinois State Board of Education \(ISBE\) and Illinois Department of Public Health \(IDPH\)](#), the information we garnered from this school year, and the Back to School Committee discussions. All of the below recommendations are based on the current guidelines and are subject to change. Many of the procedures are the same as this year however, if the guidelines shift we will continue to adapt.

We are excited and looking forward to the return of all students to the campus. The successes we have had this year have shown that we can provide a safe, healthy education to the children of Lincolnwood. The guidance has evolved through the year and the District readjusted each time. In each instance, changes have taken us one step closer to pre-pandemic routines and procedures.

As this year continues, students are able to safely work in small groups again. The District adjusted to specials teachers hosting students in their own classrooms with students safely moving through the hallways. This spring we reintroduced after school events for the middle school. The District also safely introduced hot lunch items to the menu. Additionally, any staff member that desired a vaccination received one.

The District is ready to continue taking steps forward to provide a safe and in person educational experience.

### Recommendation:

It is the recommendation of the District to bring all children back to in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year.

Per ISBE/IDPH guidance from March 9, 2021, only those students (or a household member), who are medically vulnerable will be eligible to be a remote learner next fall. In order for a student to be eligible for remote learning the District must receive a statement from a licensed medical provider that the student (or household member) is at increased risk of severe illness due to special health care needs.

## Basics of the 21-22 Reopening

- All children will return to in-person learning, following the most recent guidance.
- Masks will be required on campus.
- Daily self-certification.

## Daily Self-Certification

- Parents will need to certify children each morning before students leave for school. The link will be sent the evening before. If you answer “yes” to any of the questions on the daily self-certification, ALL children in the household should stay home and the District will contact you to discuss next steps.
- Students that have not been certified on the daily health self-certification form by their parent/guardian will be held out of class until confirmation is met for the day.

## Possible Quarantine

- If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 within a classroom, cohort, or bus, notification will be provided to inform parents of the quarantine period.
- If a quarantine is initiated by the school, the child will receive instruction through remote means.
- At this time, only international travel will require a quarantine (per the guidelines). Should your family travel internationally, please be mindful about scheduling your return home to accommodate the quarantine period before school begins.

## Transportation

- Bus seating schedules will be created according to the guidance. Students will have an assigned seat.
- Masks will be worn on buses.

## Before and After School Activities/Child Care

- There will be a selection of before and after school activities. As we continue to safely provide more options, please watch for school specific communication.
- Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation and Children’s Care and Development Center (CCDC) programming for after school hours will be available on their respective websites.

## Attendance

- Parents of students who are not reported as absent will receive a phone call from a SD74 staff member for the purposes of checking in and verifying an absence.
- **Students who are called in for a daily absence will no longer have the option of remoting in.** If a student is excused for the day, it is a true day of absence from school.

## Main Schedule and Calendar

- Students will enter and exit the building using social distancing with protective face coverings.
- Grades 1-8 will begin Thursday, August 26.
- PreKindergarten (PK) and Kindergarten (Kdg) Orientation sessions will be held on Thursday, August 26.
- PreKindergarten will continue to be half-day beginning Friday, August 27.
- Kindergarten will begin Friday, August 27.

## Arrival and Dismissal Times

- TH - 8:25 - 2:55
- RH - 8:00 - 2:45
- LH - 8:05 - 3:25

The start and end times across the District have been adjusted for the 21-22 school year to revert back to the original times across campus. Some of the ideas that took place during the 20-21 school year will continue. (i.e block scheduling at the middle school)

## Classrooms

- Desks/tables will be organized to maximize distance between students when possible and so long as required by ISBE guidance.
- Middle school students (grades 6-8) will travel from class to class following the block schedule.
- Classes may occur outside when weather permits.
- Students will continue to be in homerooms and cohorts for the majority of their instruction. Special programming may cause the child to be pulled into specific groupings at times.

## Technology

- SD74 students in grades 3-8 will have their own iPad for the staff to utilize as one more instructional tool when appropriate.
- For any family that is in need of technology support, please reach out to our tech department. [techsupport@sd74.org](mailto:techsupport@sd74.org)

## Lunch

- A physically distanced lunch space will be designated to each classroom/cohort.
- Students will have the option to bring a lunch from home or purchase a boxed lunch from the District. Boxed lunch options will rotate throughout the week. A rotating menu of hot lunch options may also be offered on specific weekdays.
- Designated space in classrooms for students with an allergy sensitivity.
- If your family is in need of ongoing food assistance, please contact the District office 847-675-8234.

## Band/Orchestra/Choir

- Band and orchestra lessons will take place in small group, sectional formats.
- We are looking forward to these groups starting up when the guidance allows.

## Outdoor Opportunities and Recess

- Students in grades PK-5 will have up to 20 minutes of outside recess everyday when weather permits. Each building will develop a staggered recess schedule. It is not always possible for recess to be attached to the lunch periods.
- Students in grades PK-8 may take breaks outside when weather permits.
- Students may remove their masks during outdoor recess while remaining physically distant so long as the distance is required per ISBE guidance.

## Supplies

- Students will bring their own supplies.
- Students should only bring the minimum amount (the District website lists the recommendations) and keep supplies in a pencil case or pouch.

## Remote Learning School Day for those that qualify under Medical Certification

The District is prepared to provide remote instruction to those that are eligible. The delivery method will most likely change from what we saw this school year.

Only those students (or a household member) who are medically vulnerable will be eligible to be a remote learner next fall. In order for a student to be eligible for remote learning the District must receive a statement from a licensed medical provider that the student (or household member) is at increased risk of severe illness due to special health care needs.

Two steps are needed to start this process:

1. Step 1: Fill out this form to communicate to the District your intent to apply for remote learning eligibility by May 21, 2021. [CLICK HERE \(Intent to apply for remote learning\)](#).
2. Step 2: Complete this application with your medical provider [CLICK HERE \(Medical Provider\)](#) for the remote learning application. Submit completed application to the District.

## Resources:

The State of Illinois is currently in Phase 4 of Governor Pritzker's [Restore Illinois Plan](#). Phase 4 outlines the Revitalization Phase for the state.

On June 23, 2020 the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) published (Part 3) [Starting the 2020-2021 school year guidance](#) for schools to consider as we plan on reopening schools in the fall.

During Phase 4, Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) has mandated the following guidelines for schools:

- Require use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including face coverings.
- Prohibit more than 50 individuals from gathering in one space.
- Require social distancing be observed, as much as possible.
- Require that schools conduct symptom screenings and temperature checks or require that individuals self-certify that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings.
- Require an increase in school-wide cleaning and disinfection.

On June 29, 2020 ISBE provided [additional information](#) with questions and answers and then on July 23, [ISBE Fall Learning Recommendations](#) were released to Illinois Districts. Since the summer of 2020, the State has provided regular updates through this [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document.

Lunch service

[CDC Lunch Recommendations](#)

On February 12, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released updated guidance for operating schools ([Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Mitigation](#)).

On March 9, 2021, following the CDC guidance, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the [Illinois State Board of Education \(ISBE\)](#) released (Part 4) [Revised Public Health Guidance for Schools](#) which prevails in the event that any of it is in conflict with previous guidance for safe in-person return for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.

Remote Learning Application for 21-22 school year:

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