

Shorewood Medical Advisory Group Statement  
Regarding Instruction for the 2021-2022 Academic Year  
2/4/2021

The Medical Advisory Committee endorses the Shorewood School District Administration's commitment to providing full in-person education for the 2021-2022 school year. The fall of 2021 will mark 18 months since initial school closure, and while we believe that COVID-19 will still be challenging our country in September 2021, the growing knowledge around SARS-CoV-2 transmission and mitigation in school environments, improving testing access, and increasing vaccination rates will allow education delivery with relative safety. We recognize that there is accruing evidence that many students and families experienced physical, emotional, social, and educational challenges in 2020. A return to in person education provides a strong platform from which to begin the work of addressing these important concerns.

This commitment to in-person education does not mean a return to schools in the same ways they operated before the pandemic. We believe the following concerns will require continued attention:

- Ongoing adaptations will be needed, including both mitigation strategies being used this academic year and additional ones to accommodate more learners and in-person hours per week.
- Continued construction within our district will require additional planning to maintain mitigation needs and student spacing.
- Traditional classrooms will need to facilitate remote synchronous learning for students faced with future isolation or quarantine needs.
- Shorewood School District will need a robust virtual option with supplemental support to accommodate families that prefer this approach.
- There must be a vigorous effort to address social and emotional needs of students of all age groups and learning modes.

As we continue our efforts for safe and successful learning for all students this school year, we look forward to working with the District on proactive planning to create an even stronger learning community in the coming school year, committed to safety, educational excellence, and the vitality of our village.