

# District 200 Return to School Plan for 2021-2022 School Year



# CDC/Health Department Guidance

<b>Indicator - If the two indicators suggest different transmission levels, the higher level is selected</b>	<b>Low Transmission Blue</b>	<b>Moderate Transmission Yellow</b>	<b>Substantial Transmission Orange</b>	<b>High Transmission Red</b>
Incident Rate	0-9.99	10-49.99	50-99.99	>100
Test Positivity	0-4.99%	5-7.99%	8-9.99%	>10%

The health department has changed their metrics to match CDC metrics. The health department could suggest further mitigations if the community spread moved to a different transmission zone.

# CDC/MCDH Quarantine

The McHenry County Health Department has committed to follow CDC quarantine guidelines.

The CDC Quarantine Guidelines state:

Vaccinated students do not have to quarantine for close contacts.

Close contact and quarantine **excludes** unvaccinated students who meet the criteria of:

- All wearing masks
- Have other school preventions in place

To summarize, both CDC and the local health department state that if all students are wearing masks in a classroom and we have preventions in place, students do not have to quarantine for close contact in the classroom. The health department has shared with us that in an unmasked elementary classroom, one unmasked student could cause the entire classroom to be quarantined. This would include students in the room who had been wearing masks.

Our policy will be to follow the health department on all quarantines from school.

# Education in Quarantine

- The stated goal of the CDC is the return to in-person learning for students.
- District 200 is still working under the Illinois State Board of Education May 2021 resolution which requires us to resume fully in person learning for all student attendance days. The resolution calls for us to provide remote instruction for students not eligible for a vaccine and are quarantined.
- Our intention is to provide remote learning for all students who are attending live instruction and are then quarantined.

# Administrative Recommendation for District 200 Prevention Strategies for CDC Recommendations

- Continue to work with the health department and local partners to provide vaccine opportunities to families who want the vaccine.
- Keep social distance in the school setting. In Pre-K-5, we can keep 3 feet in all classrooms and 6 feet at lunch. In 6-12, we have 3 feet in classrooms and 3 feet at lunch.
- Continue to reinforce the importance of hand washing and respiratory etiquette. This includes the use of hand sanitizer and the practice of covering when coughing or sneezing.

# Administrative Recommendation for District 200 Prevention Strategies for CDC Recommendations

- We are shifting our screening policy to a once a semester signoff by parents followed by educational reminders on what symptoms we are seeing in schools and how they are presenting themselves.
- We are increasing our air flow system in all of our buildings for increased ventilation. Prior to the pandemic, we ran the systems roughly from start bell to stop bell. During the pandemic, we ran the systems additional hours before and after school. This year, we will run the systems 24 hours a day to provide for increased fresh air, increased ventilation and increased air changes in our buildings.
- Continue to meet new CDC guidelines for cleaning and disinfection.

# Masks

Our legal representation advises us the safest course of action is to follow the recommendations of of the CDC, IDPH, ISBE, and our local health department as close as possible.

- Masks must be worn by all students and staff on all school busses.
- Universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.

# Next Steps

We will send information to parents in the next few days outlining our plan to return to school. We will request information on students that will be riding the bus this year.