

PARENTS' BACK-TO-SCHOOL GUIDE

2021-22

STATE REQUIREMENTS

- Face coverings must be worn indoors and on school buses by all individuals.
- A minimum of 3-foot physical distancing between students within classrooms where possible.
- Maintain 6-foot physical distancing when individuals are unmasked for eating.
- Layering of additional mitigation, including cleaning and disinfecting, increased ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
- Students, teachers and staff should stay home when sick and get tested when experiencing COVID symptoms.
- Contact tracing in combination with exclusion from school of students and staff for illness or close contact, in accordance with health dept. guidance.
- Each district should monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing and occurrence of outbreaks to guide prevention strategies.

FACE COVERINGS



- Every student and staff member must wear a face mask indoors regardless of vaccination status.
- Individuals do not need to wear masks outdoors except in crowded outdoor settings or during activities with sustained close contact with others.
- Face coverings should have two or more layers, worn over the nose and mouth, and fit snugly against the sides of the face without gaps.
- ‘Gaiters’ made of single-layer athletic fabric or masks with a ventilation disk are not acceptable as they do not prevent spread of the virus.
- Face shields may be worn in *addition* to a face mask. Shields do not replace face masks.
- Parents should send students wearing one face covering and a spare to put on after lunch. It is also advisable for students to have a couple of spares stored at school.

FACE COVERINGS



- Breaks from face coverings will be planned outside, periodically (outdoor classes; recess; lunch; any time a teacher feels it is warranted)
- A student with a medical condition who is not able to wear a face covering should contact the principal and/or the school's assistant director for student services.
- Reusable face masks should be machine-washed or hand-washed and allowed to dry completely after each use.

3-FOOT PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- 3-foot physical distancing is recommended between students, as much as possible .
- Students will be spaced at least 3 feet apart in traditional & non-traditional instructional spaces. Non-traditional instructional spaces include libraries, multi-purpose rooms, gymnasiums, etc.
- Procedures will be established at each school to manage the number of students at arrival/dismissal times, in the hallway, bathrooms, etc. at any given time.
- Six-foot distancing is recommended when face masks are removed to eat lunch. Lunch will be held with students staying in the same cohort and appropriately distanced, outside, in the gyms/multipurpose rooms and other areas as needed to maximize physical distancing.



VOLUNTARY SHIELD TESTING

The district is participating in a state-sponsored voluntary saliva testing program for students and staff using the SHIELD Illinois test, a PCR test developed by the University of Illinois.

- Testing will take place at school once per week with a 24-hour turnaround time.
- This is an opt-out program. Parents must complete a form to opt out children from weekly testing.
- Testing will be facilitated by a SHIELD Illinois specialist who will visit the school to collect samples from students and staff.
- Read more about [SHIELD Testing](#), which is a proven effective mitigation strategy to limit spread of the virus.

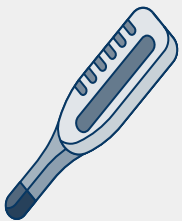
REMOTE LEARNING FOR QUARANTINED STUDENTS

The Illinois State Board of Education requires districts to provide remote instruction for students only while they are required to quarantine due to a positive COVID-19 test or if they are determined to be a close contact.

Remote Learning will not be provided to students who are required to quarantine due to elective travel.

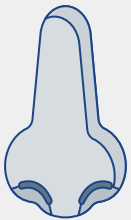
DAILY HEALTH CHECK

Parents will receive an email each day from CrisisGo and a text reminder to self-certify each child daily by answering the following questions:



1. Has your child experienced any of the following symptoms during the last 24 hours?

- Fatigue from an unknown cause
- Fever (over 100.4)
- New onset of moderate or severe headache
- New loss of smell or taste
- New Cough
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath
- Muscle or body aches from an unknown cause
- Vomiting or diarrhea



DAILY HEALTH CHECK

Possible Answers to Question 1:

- Yes, this is a **NEW** symptom(s) for my child. **DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL even if you have been vaccinated.** Please contact your healthcare provider for additional guidance.
- Yes, but it is related to a diagnosed health condition my child has, **other than COVID-19.** If you haven't already provided the school with medical certification that the symptom(s) are the result of another diagnosed health condition, **DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL UNTIL YOU HAVE DONE SO.**
- No

2. Has your child been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 10 days?

- Yes -Do not come to school
- No

DAILY HEALTH CHECK (CONT'D)

3. Has your child been in contact with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

- Yes-they have been in close contact and is not vaccinated. DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL.
- Yes, but my child has been vaccinated and is asymptomatic. COME TO SCHOOL, but all exposed individuals must get a COVID-19 PCR test 3-5 days after exposure.
- No

4. Has anyone in your home experienced any of the following symptoms during the last 24 hours? Fatigue; Fever (over 100.4); New loss of smell or taste; Cough; Sore throat; Shortness of breath; Muscle or body aches; Nausea or vomiting; Diarrhea; moderate to severe headache.

- Yes, and my child is not vaccinated. DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. Contact the school nurse for guidance.
- Yes, but my child is fully vaccinated and is asymptomatic COME TO SCHOOL
- No

DAILY HEALTH CHECK (CONT'D)

Domestic Travel

The district will continue to follow the [Cook County travel map](#) as it pertains to quarantine requirements for domestic travel.

5. Has your child traveled outside of the state of Illinois in the past 7 days?

VACCINATED DOMESTIC TRAVEL:

My child is asymptomatic. No quarantine or COVID-19 PCR test required. COME TO SCHOOL.

UNVACCINATED DOMESTIC TRAVEL (LESS than 24 hours)

My child is returning from an "orange" state, where they spent less than 24 hours and they are asymptomatic, COME TO SCHOOL.

UNVACCINATED DOMESTIC TRAVEL (MORE than 24 hours)

My child is returning from an orange state, where they spent MORE than 24 hours. Obtain a COVID-19 PCR test 3-5 days after travel and self-quarantine for seven days. DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL

UNVACCINATED DOMESTIC TRAVEL from a 'yellow' state. If the state is in the 'yellow' status upon your return, there is no need to quarantine or test. YOU MAY COME TO SCHOOL.

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DAILY HEALTH CHECK (CONT'D)

International Travel

VACCINATED INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:

My child is asymptomatic and obtained a negative test 72 hours prior to entering the country. COME TO SCHOOL. Obtain a COVID-19 PCR test 3-5 days after travel.

UNVACCINATED INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

My child is unvaccinated. DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL. Obtain a COVID-19 PCR test 3-5 days after travel; quarantine for 7 days with a negative test result or 10 days without a test; and be asymptomatic.

OR

My child has recovered in the last 90 days from a documented COVID infection and is asymptomatic. COME TO SCHOOL.

ADDITIONAL SAFETY INFORMATION

- All school campuses will be closed, except for essential visitors.
- Parents are encouraged to conduct school business via email or phone.
- If coming to the school is absolutely necessary, visitors will be limited to the front office and are required to wear a mask to enter.
- Tents will be available for elementary schools through October for lunch and P.E.

CLOSE CONTACT

- Close contact is considered to be unvaccinated individuals with whom the confirmed or probable COVID case spent 15 minutes or more closer than 3 feet with or without a face mask. If all physical distancing protocols are followed, no students or staff should need to quarantine from one positive case in a classroom.
- Information related to household members is being evaluated by IDPH.
- Students and staff who are fully vaccinated with no COVID-19 like symptoms do not need to quarantine. They should test three to five days after a close contact exposure.
- If an unvaccinated student or staff member is determined to be a close contact, the school nurse will follow up with the family for next steps. Students who are quarantined due to close contact will be provided remote access to learning.

EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL

- Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 or who shows any signs or symptoms of illness (unless related to a diagnosed health condition) will not be allowed into the school, regardless of vaccination status.
- Any individual within the school environment who shows symptoms will be immediately separated from the rest of the school population and sent home with a parent/guardian.
- Individuals with COVID-like symptoms, who do not get tested for COVID-19 and do not provide a doctor's note with alternative diagnosis, must complete 10 calendar days of isolation and be fever-free for 24 hours w/o using fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved before returning to school.

CONFIRMED CASES

- When a confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs within the district, all families will be notified. However, the name of the infected person CANNOT be shared, as that is a violation of federal law.
- Two confirmed cases of COVID-19 infections occurring within 14 calendar days of each other in the same classroom would meet the case definition for an outbreak. This would prompt an investigation by CCDPH that may result in recommendations for testing and quarantining all students/staff in the affected classroom.

BUS TRANSPORTATION



- Parents must self-certify their children before boarding the bus.
- Face coverings must be worn on the bus at all times.
- Physical distancing will be facilitated to the greatest extent possible given the space on the buses.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DAY



- Students will have core subjects each day.
- Students will travel to elementary art, music, p.e. and Spanish classrooms.
- Physical Education will be held primarily outside or, during inclement weather, in the gym, regular classroom, or multi-purpose room.
- Lunch will be outside on most days. In the event of rain, we will utilize our tents, classrooms, and multipurpose spaces. Students can go home for lunch if parents sign a release with the school. This form will be available on the school website and at the school office.
- Students will have a morning or afternoon recess, depending on the time of day they have physical education. If they have morning recess, they will have afternoon physical education, and visa versa. Face masks will not be required while they are outside at recess except in crowded outdoor settings or during activities with sustained close contact with others.
 - Students will have access to playground equipment. They will be able to share balls and other playground equipment by practicing hand hygiene before and after recess.

NBJH SCHOOL DAY



- Math and Language Arts will continue to have 80-minute block periods every other day which will eliminate one transition period.
- PE & Electives will have alternating 80-minute block classes on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.
- Each student will be assigned a hallway locker.
- Students will be permitted to bring a backpack of supplies with them to core academic classes if they choose. Backpacks will not be allowed at lunch, in PE classes or in Exploratory/Elective classes.
- Physical Education will be held in the gym or outside. Locker rooms will be used for students to change for PE; locker stalls will be spaced so students can maintain physical distancing protocols.
- Since students need to be 6 feet apart while eating, lunch locations will include both gyms and the cafeteria. Students will go outside for recess.
- Organic Life will accept lunch orders once a week and box lunches will be delivered to students (no standing in line).