



**WEST CHICAGO
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

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2021-2022 D33 Return to School Planning

Presented by: D33 Administrative Team

July 27, 2021

Purpose of this presentation

1. Share the priorities for the new school year
2. Update parents and staff on the new health guidance and local metrics
3. Share the D33 Reopening Plan recommendation based on priorities for returning to school, new guidance and local metrics

**The following information is based on the latest guidance and is subject to change



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District 33 School Return to School Priorities

1. Ensuring the safety and well-being of students and staff.
2. Resuming full in-person learning as well as all extracurricular and all after school activities.
3. Minimizing disruptions (i.e. quarantines) to student learning.
4. Minimize the undue burden families experience when children must quarantine.
5. Addressing the learning and social emotional needs of students.



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New Guidance



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Advising and Guiding Agencies - Where do we receive our guidance?

- The Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
- Dupage County Health Department (DCHD)
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- Local Healthcare Providers (Pediatric Health Associates)
- Collective Liability Insurance Cooperative (CLIC)
- Legal Counsel



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Major Changes to Guidance as of July 27, 2021

Primary changes to guidance for the 2021-22 school year include the following:

- Promotion of vaccination as the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Additional emphasis on the importance of offering in-person learning, regardless of whether all of the prevention strategies can be implemented in a school
- Alignment of masking recommendations for schools with CDC guidance



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CDC and IDPH- Masks (July 27, 2021)

CDC recommends that everyone, including fully vaccinated individuals, wear a mask in public indoor setting in areas with substantial and high transmission.

CDC is also recommending universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.



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DuPage County Health Department (July 29, 2021)

The use of masks in schools by all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools (regardless of vaccination status) will reduce school-based and community transmission of COVID-19, reduce the need for quarantine of students who are close contacts in school, and therefore keep more students learning in-person



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American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) - July 19, 2021

“As we start the 2021-22 school year, a large portion of students are not eligible to be vaccinated and there are COVID variants that are more contagious. Because of this and because we want to have all students in school, the AAP advocates for all students, teachers and staff to wear masks while indoors in school.”

“Pediatricians are urged to work with schools and local public health authorities to promote childhood vaccination messaging before the start of school and throughout the school year.”



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Local Metrics

Localities should monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies (e.g., physical distancing, screening testing). CDC Guidance July 9, 2021



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IDPH Indicators & Community Transmission Levels

Per IDPH, Metrics for School Determination of Community Spread, the DuPage County transmission Rate as of July 23, 2021:

SUBSTANTIAL

Minimal
 Total New Cases
 New Cases per 100k
Minimal
 Youth Case Increase
Minimal

Substantial

Indicator	Minimal Community Transmission	Moderate Community Transmission	Substantial Community Transmission
Test Positivity	Less than or = 5%	Greater than 5% but Less than or = 8%	Greater than 8%
County Case Rates per 100K	Less than or = 50 Per 100K	Greater than 50 to Less than or = 100 Per 100K	Greater than 100 Per 100K
County Overall Case Numbers	Two week increase Greater than 5% but Less than or = 10%	Two week increase Greater than 10% but Less than or = 20%	Two week increase Greater than 20% each week
County Youth Case Numbers	Two week increase Greater than 5% but Less than or = 10%	Two week increase Greater than 10% but Less than or = 20%	Two week increase Greater than 20% each week

Source: IDPH-defined community transmission levels in [DuPage County COVID-19 School Metrics Guidance](#)

IDPH Metrics for School Determination of Community Spread

Test Positivity (%)

(%) positive tests reported Sun-Sat
(Target: less than or equal to 5%)

2.4%

✓ Minimal

New Cases Per 100,000

Cases Reported reported Sun-Sat
(Target: less than 50 per 100,000)

28 Cases per 100k

✓ Minimal

New Cases

Cases Reported reported Sun-Sat
(Target: decreasing or stable)

263 Cases

✗ Substantial

Youth Case Increase


Cases Reported reported Sun-Sat
(Target: decreasing or stable)

67 Youth Cases

✓ Minimal

*Updated July 23,
2021*

District 33 & DuPage County Vaccine Coverage

Vaccination Rates	District 33	DuPage County	Illinois
<p>July 15</p> 	<p>Students ages 12+ 10% as of June 2021</p>	<p>69.17% Ages 16-64 fully vaccinated</p>	<p>55.2% Population ages 12+ fully vaccinated</p>
	<p>80% D33 Staff</p>	<p>92.91% Ages 64+ fully vaccinated</p>	<p>57.6% Population ages 18+ fully vaccinated</p>

Summer 2021 Data

As of July 26, 2021

In Summer Camp & Extended School Year Summer Programming:

- All staff and students required to wear masks
- No positive student cases reported through 7/22/21 (one positive student case was identified as a result of travel on 7/23/21)
- 1 student quarantined due to family member testing positive
- 10 symptomatic students quarantined but tested negative and returned to school (2% of total enrolled July 22)
- 1 staff member tested positive and was quarantined per current guidelines

Return to School Plans Instruction



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Instruction During Quarantine



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Pursuant to the Illinois State Board of Education’s May 2021 Resolution: “Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, all schools must resume fully in-person learning for all student attendance days, provided that, pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-30 and 105 ILCS 5/34-18.66, remote instruction be made available for students who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine and are under a quarantine order by a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health.”

We will ensure students who are in quarantine continue to receive access to instruction and support from a remote classroom teacher. Remote learning will not be offered to students who are not under a quarantine order.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

IN-PERSON LEARNING MODEL

- 5 days/week
- Specials schedule will continue (Music, P.E., Art, and SEL)



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LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

REMOTE LEARNING DUE TO QUARANTINE

- Remote teacher will
 - work with students in quarantine
 - act as a liaison between the classroom students in quarantine and classroom teacher
 - act as a liaison between teachers and parents of students in quarantine
 - provide synchronous and asynchronous materials and support to students in literacy and math



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LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

Homebound Instruction

Homebound Instruction is provided to a student when a physician certifies that a student's medical condition will result in absences from school for a minimum of 10 days during the school year.

- ISBE recommends one hour per day or five hours per week of homebound instruction unless the student's medical statement indicates that the child should receive less.



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LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

SNOW DAYS=Remote Learning

- Severe weather will allow teachers to teach students virtually
- Emergency days will not be tacked at the end of the school year



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Layered Mitigation Strategies



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Steps to Minimize Quarantine

The District understands and respects the various viewpoints on wearing masks and receiving vaccinations. The intent of today's message is to inform parents how masks, vaccines, and IDPH testing impact the ability to achieve our goal: **keeping students in their classrooms for in-person instruction and minimizing the loss of in-person instruction due to quarantine periods.** The following will be implemented to minimize quarantine periods:

1. Weekly COVID screenings
2. Require masks indoors for all individuals
3. Test when symptomatic
4. Stay home when sick



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D33 Layered Prevention Strategies



Higher Level of Protection

Lower Level of Protection

Vaccinations

Mask Requirements

Social Distancing

Screening/Hygiene/Sanitation

Monitor Data

Vaccinations

“Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic.” - Centers for Disease Control

- Parents will be asked (not required) to share child’s COVID vaccination status which will help with contact tracing and hopefully avoid quarantine.
- Parents of unvaccinated students will be asked to allow student to participate in regular SHIELD screening, also to help avoid quarantine.
- Vaccines will continue to be strongly encouraged for students age 12 and up.



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Masks

CDC is recommending indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. (CDC, July 27)

District 33 will continue to follow the guidance for schools recommended by the CDC, IDPH and DCHD.



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Mask Exemption Requirements

Q: What if a student or staff member is unable to tolerate wearing a face covering?

A: Individuals who have a condition or medical contraindication (e.g., difficulty breathing) that prevents them from wearing a face covering are required to provide documentation from the individual's healthcare provider for the school team to consider accommodations that are appropriate for the child.

Q: How should schools handle situations where students cannot tolerate a face covering or a face shield?

A: In these instances, parents/guardians, teachers, and school administrators should meet to develop a plan for adaptations and goals for decreasing mask sensitivity whenever possible.

Physical Distancing

“Schools should maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing by people who are not fully vaccinated, to reduce transmission risk.” Centers for Disease Control

- D33 has worked to ensure 3 feet in classrooms between desks.
- When 3 feet cannot be ensured in the cafeteria, students will eat lunch in their classrooms.
- Desk shields will be provided upon parent request.



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Screening/Sanitation/Hygiene Etiquette

- Weekly screening for COVID-19 will be a key strategy to identify cases -- staff and students will be asked to participate in Shield Screening.
- Handwashing stations, hand sanitizer, PPE will continue to be available for students and staff
- Cleaning and disinfection protocols will continue as they did this past year.
- We will ask all students and staff to stay home when sick.



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Screening & Testing in District 33

SCREENING

- Is preventative
- Detects COVID 2-3 days before people start showing symptoms
- 50% of viral spread comes from asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic people who don't know they have COVID
- Early identification drastically minimizes the number of people required to quarantine protects those who are vaccinated and unvaccinated in schools

TESTING

- Determines if a symptomatic individual has COVID
- On site testing eliminates the need for a follow-up medical appointment
- On-site testing can reduce the length of quarantine for those who are symptomatic and test negative for COVID

Other Safety Provisions



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- Occupancy on buses will not be limited but masks must be worn.
- Food service will proceed with 3 ft social distancing (some grade levels may need to eat in classrooms to maintain this distance).
- Masks will be required by visitors to schools.
- Desk shields will be provided upon parent request.
- Facility rentals will resume but school guidelines must be followed.
- Local field trips will resume provided all safety guidelines can be met.

Next Steps - Timeline

7/27 Parent and Staff “Coffee with the Superintendent”

8/5 Board of Education Presentation

8/6 Parent Communication - Return to School Plans

8/17 & 8/19 Dupage County Vaccination Caravan (1st Dose)

8/25 **First Days of School**

- Wed, Aug. 25th 1st - 8th grade
- Thurs, Aug 26th Kindergarten
- Thurs, Sept 2nd Preschool

9/7 & 9/9 Dupage County Vaccination Caravan (2nd Dose)



Dupage County Vaccination Clinic

LMS Parking lot

1st dose Tues. Aug 17 & Thurs. 19

4-6 p.m.

2nd dose Tues. Sept 7 & Thurs. 9

Staff, Students, Families



Thank you!



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