

# We're Ready To Welcome Our Students Back → To Campus!

*A summary of Timothy's return to campus plan  
for the fall 2020. v1.0*



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## We have a plan to get our students safely back on campus in August!

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented the most serious public health crisis the world has experienced in many years. For the 2020-21 school year and beyond, the staff and Board of Directors of Timothy Christian Schools resolve to do everything we can to safely reopen our campus because we believe doing so is in the overall best interest of our students. We recognize that Timothy Christian Schools needs to determine a plan for reopening that has the wellbeing of our entire community in mind.

Even as we create a plan to reopen our campus in August, we recognize the possibility of closing buildings again with very little advance warning. Timothy Christian Schools is prepared for different learning models designed to fit a variety of circumstances.

A health and safety plan has been developed in collaboration with a health task force composed of parents, health care professionals, administrators, attorneys, and school staff. The plan, taking into consideration local and state regulations, along with federal guidance, is based around the following general guidelines:

1. Prefer in-person (“face-to-face”) learning over remote learning whenever it is safe to do so.
2. Prioritize student, faculty, and staff health, safety, and wellbeing.
3. Ensure hygiene-and health-related policies are research-based, clearly communicated, effectively implemented, and diligently enforced.
4. Promote practices and policies to reduce the risk of virus transmission and be responsive and flexible when facing changing circumstances.

We understand there are several health and safety initiatives to plan and implement when considering the re-opening of schools. The CDC, in the document **CONSIDERATIONS FOR SCHOOLS**, provides guidance regarding personal prevention practices such as hand hygiene and staying home when sick, as well as expanding the schools’ environmental cleaning and disinfection practices.

**Timothy is prepared!  
Let’s get back to it! The  
Illinois State Board of  
Education in concert with  
the Illinois Department  
of Public Health has  
released their plans for  
on-campus learning.**

→ **LINK: IDPH & ISBE STARTING THE  
2020–21 SCHOOL YEAR**



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## Timothy has 18 expert task force members working to keep your family healthy.

To prepare for on-campus learning this fall, Timothy has assembled two powerhouse teams.

- An Education Task Force
- A Health Task Force

Your Education Task Force Members:

1. Matt Davidson, Superintendent (Ad Hoc)
2. Kevin Hackert, Director of Technology
3. Justin Horne, NBCT, Principal, Timothy Christian Elementary and Middle Schools
4. Tracey Jarzombek, Education Committee Chair
5. Kendra Lee, 7 - 12 Director of Curriculum
6. Brad Mitchell, High School Principal
7. Lynn van Stee, Director of Educational Support
8. Kris Wise, P-6 Director of Curriculum

Your Health Task Force:

1. Vanessa V. Clohessy, Partner, Hodges, Loizzi, Eisenhammer, Rodick & Kohn LLP
2. Matt Davidson, Superintendent, Timothy Christian Schools
3. Jackie Hayes, RN, BSN, Emergency Department, Loyola University Medical Center
4. Justin Horne, NBCT, Principal, Timothy Christian Elementary and Middle Schools
5. Corinne Jones, RN, BSN, PEL-SN, School Nurse, Elmhurst School District 205
6. Amanda Keizer, RN, BSN, CRRN, Clinical Coordinator, Inpatient Rehabilitation, Amita LaGrange Memorial Hospital
7. Heather Lindemulder, RN, BSN, Pediatric Unit, Loyola University Medical Center
8. Don Lipp, Director of Maintenance, Timothy Christian Schools
9. Erica Plaisier, RN, BSN, MS, School Nurse, Timothy Christian Schools
10. Brent Rieger, MD, Internist and Pediatrician, Loyola Medicine
11. Shelly Smith, Administrator and Assistant Executive Director, Park Place (Providence Life Services)
12. ShawnTe Welch, Partner, Ancel Glink, P.C.
13. Kris Wise, P-6 Director of Curriculum



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**Timothy Christian Schools is prepared for different learning models designed to fit a variety of circumstances, with the goal being continuity of education in the healthiest environment.**

## Health, Wellness, & Learning

**A significant investment in hygiene that's here to stay.**

Board involvement, task force, staff training, expanded curriculum, signage, wall mount hand sanitizers in public areas and all classrooms, collaboration with school nurse and community health officials, guest speakers, assemblies, chapels.

**Increased accommodations for sick students and extended absenteeism.**

Agile attendance policies for sick students, class or building closures for absenteeism rates above 15%, enhanced remote learning opportunities for sick students.

**Increased commitment to building cleaning protocols.**

Additional staff in all three buildings throughout the day to frequently clean high traffic surfaces and restrooms, intensified nightly cleanings with approved disinfectants, monthly electrostatic "fogging" treatments in all three buildings, teacher training and resources to better clean their own classrooms, elimination of shared objects that are difficult to clean.

**Designation of a sick/quarantine room.**

Sick students will be safely quarantined and monitored in a sick room in their building until they can be picked up by a parent or legal guardian.

**View the complete 26-page health document.**

**LINK: TIMOTHY HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELLNESS PLAN**



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**Classroom configurations will be modified to increase social distancing as much as possible. Strategies that will be implemented include facing all desks in the same direction in rows, versus in small clusters, and utilizing all of the classroom space to separate desks and tables.**

## **Adaptive.**

Screening will be the primary responsibility of the home. Communication and training will be provided to parents on responsible screening, flexible attendance policies, easily accessed remote learning, regular communication between home and school.

At this time, face coverings must be worn, per the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Timothy remains hopeful that this requirement will be altered at some point, which would make face coverings optional within the classroom. For now, face coverings or face shields must be worn. All three offices will carry an inventory of face coverings for approved visitors to campus.

Large group gatherings and visitors on campus will be restricted during the school day. Chapel will be in small groups/cohorts or in the classrooms, lunch will be eaten in the classrooms or rotating classes in the cafeterias, break and assemblies will be eliminated, recess will be cohorted.

After school large group activities and events will be restricted. If necessary, virtual events will be “the norm” until the rules change.

**Athletics and other extra-curricular activities will be determined by the IHSA and other sponsoring associations. Indoor rentals will be restricted and regulated by strict protocols.**



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**An effective strategy to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is to ensure our cleaning protocols exceed guidelines established by the CDC.**

## **Actionable.**

In accordance with state and federal guidance, individual students and/or staff who test positive for COVID-19 may not return to school until they have met criteria to return. Families of all students will be appropriately notified when a case(s) occurs. Additionally, the DuPage County Health Department will be notified. Timothy will follow all prescribed quarantine protocols.

Staff training and professional development will focus on remote learning strategies based on surveys and best practice. Timothy will offer a best-in-class remote learning experience for students forced into quarantine. Moreover, we will increase our call list and training for substitute teachers and staff to account for faculty COVID-19 cases.

Screening protocols will be on high alert. Our communication to employees and parents will increase on effective screening protocols.

Every action item in the overall strategies and plans will be punctuated and closely monitored for effectiveness and accountability. Third party health professionals will be consulted routinely.



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**Timothy's education plan and contingencies are fully aligned with our Health Task Force plan. The Educational Task Force plan is 25-pages and takes every contingency into consideration.**

## **Aligned.**

Timothy's health plan is fully aligned with its educational plan. Although we are fully prepared and moving forward with in-person learning, Timothy has developed several contingencies in the event circumstances change.

The Education Task Force has developed contingencies for:

- Online / Remote Learning
- Intermittent School Closures (Rolling Outages)

In every case, Timothy's plan covers the following instructional areas:

1. Academics
2. Technology
3. Schedules
4. Lunch (and Lunch Bunch – Preschool)
5. Teacher Support
6. Student Support
7. Spiritual, Social, & Emotional Support



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## Research & Guiding Documents

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1. CDC Activities and Initiatives Supporting the COVID-19 Response and the President’s Plan for Opening America Up Again (May 2020) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/php/CDC-Activities-Initiatives-for-COVID-19-Response.pdf>
2. A PLAN TO SAFELY REOPEN AMERICA’S SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES Guidance for imagining a new normal for public education, public health and our economy in the age of COVID-19 (From American Federation of Teachers May 2020) [https://www.aft.org/sites/default/files/covid19\\_reopen-america-schools.pdf](https://www.aft.org/sites/default/files/covid19_reopen-america-schools.pdf)
3. CDC Reopening Decision Tree (May 2020) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/Schools-Decision-Tree.pdf>
4. <https://www.aei.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/A-Blueprint-for-Back-to-School-One-Pager.pdf>
5. According to the Restore Illinois plan for opening education in Phase 3 and Phase 4, it says, “With IDPH approved safety guidance.” The most current guidance can be found here: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus/schools-guidance>
6. ISBE Transition guidance - Part 3: <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Part-3-Transition-Planning-Phase-4.pdf> Within that guidance is this useful checklist for the Timothy task force: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/COVID-19%20Schools%20Checklist%20030420.pdf>
7. Also within the IDPH guidance is a link to the CDC guidance: [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-schools.html?CDC\\_AA\\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fspecific-groups%2Fguidance-for-schools.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-schools.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fspecific-groups%2Fguidance-for-schools.html) Scroll down to the last two sections in the document; those are the most helpful at the current time and with Timothy’s vision of reopening in the fall.

