
Reopening Update
A Conversation with
Gary Weisserman and
Dr. Mathew Philip
Thursday, August 13, 2020

# Agenda

I. Welcome and Introduction
II. Bernard Zell Plan and Layers of Protection
III. Perspective from Dr. Mathew Philip
IV. Frequently Asked Questions
V. Questions Submitted Via Chat
VI. Scenarios and Approaches
VII. Wrap -Up

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# I. Welcome and Introduction

# Guiding Principles

1. Our top priority is the health and safety of our entire community—students, faculty, staff, families and community partners. Although we recognize that it is not possible to eliminate all risk, Bernard Zell will always adhere to the guidance set forth by state and local public health authorities and incorporate proven best practices whenever possible.

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# Guiding Principles

2. In our commitment to academic excellence, we will maintain continuous and uninterrupted learning, regardless of format. While our intent is to safely return to campus and provide our full educational experience, we are also committed to providing outstanding distance learning and hybrid experiences, should circumstances require.

# Guiding Principles

**3. Our decisions will balance the immediate and urgent needs of our community with the school's commitment to long-term sustainability and its foundational traditions rooted in our Jewish values.**

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# Guiding Principles

4. Partnering with our community—faculty, students and families—is critical to resuming our operations safely. We will foster engagement with all our constituencies, and commit to regular and transparent communications as we deal with the impact of the health crisis.

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# CHICAGO | COVID-19 Weekly Summary

Week ending August 8, 2020
Data for this dashboard is updated weekly. For data definitions and more, learn how to use this dashboard.

Select mode

Daily by Demographic | Weekly by ZIP | Positivity Rate

*Need to find your ZIP Code? Use the USPS ZIP Lookup*

Select ZIP Code

60613

Select filters for map

Cases | People tested | Deaths | % Positivity | Testing sites

Select a timeframe

- Cumulative
- Most recent week

Select a unit of measure

- Counts
- Rates

Select metric for ZIP Code compared to Citywide chart

Case rate | Test rate | Death rate

Reset to default

built by slalom

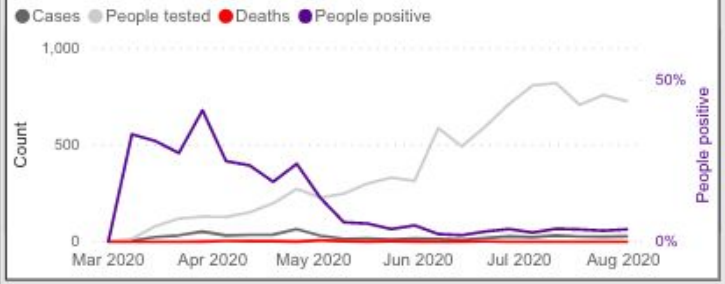
## Cumulative totals for 60613 (3/1/2020 - 8/8/2020)

| Confirmed cases | People tested | Deaths | Positivity trend |
|---|---|---|---|
| 587 | 8,732 | 31 | |
| Share of population: 1 in 85 | Share of population: 1 in 6 | Share of population: 1 in 1,617 | |

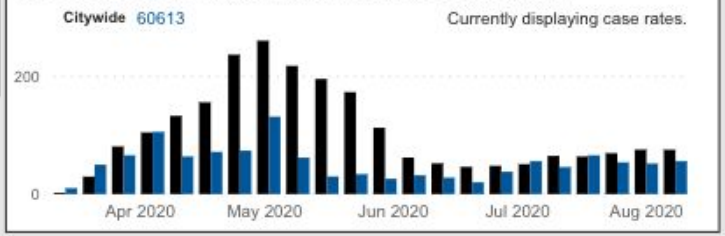
## Weekly totals and trends for 60613 (week ending 8/8/2020)

| Confirmed cases | People tested | Deaths | People positive |
|---|---|---|---|
| 28 ▲ | 727 ▼ | 0 ⟷ | 3.9% ▲ |
| Prior wk.: 26 (8%) | Prior wk.: 758 (-4%) | Prior wk.: 0 (0%) | Prior wk.: 3.4% |

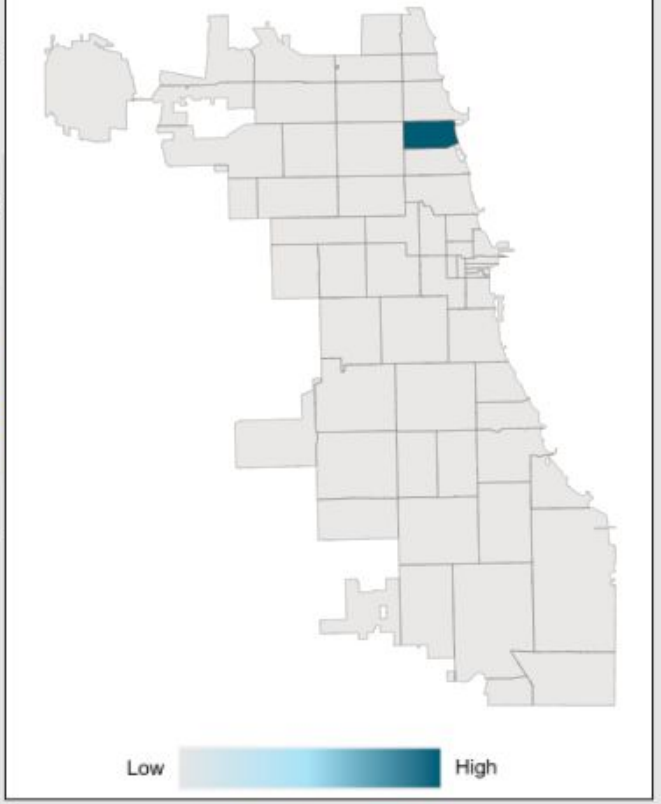
## Weekly cases, tests, and deaths for 60613 (3/1/2020 - 8/8/2020)




## 60613 compared to Citywide (Rate per 100,000 population)




## Dashboard displaying details for 60613



# Start date change:
# EC and LS start remains August 31
# MS start moved to September 2

# II. Bernard Zell Plan and Layers of Protection

# COVID-19 Protection Plan: Layers of Safety

## before campus:

**01**
Children age <10 less infectious than teens & adults

**02**
<4% positivity rate in zipcodes served; less excluding 18-29.

**03**
Daily symptom tracker

**04**
Children typically infected by parent, who is more likely to show symptoms; student in households with symptoms should stay home

**05**
No visitors to campus

## on campus:

**06**
Students & teachers wear masks at all times.

**07**
6' distance in classrooms

**08**
Air purification systems

**09**
Cleaning throughout the day

**10**
Individual supplies

**11**
Handwashing

**12**
Cohorting reduces spread

# III. Perspective from Dr. Mathew Philip



# Dr. Mathew Philip

Medical Director of Clinical Innovation
at DuPage Medical Group

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# IV. Frequently Asked Questions

# Understanding the Data

With new studies and research coming out all the time indicating rising positivity rates, wouldn't it be safer to be remote or open for half-days? Bernard Zell's plan seems aggressive in doing a full day five days a week when others are doing more hybrid models. Is there a scientific reason to reduce the number of people within the school at any given time?

We are hearing different thresholds for schools to shut down. What is the right threshold for schools?

The research indicates teens are getting infected at the same rate as adults. What are your thoughts on the South Korea study? Is it safe to have Middle School students on campus?

What studies do you look to for guidance and support?

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# In School Safety at Lunch

Is it safe for students to eat lunch in classrooms? Some schools are sending students home for lunch. Are we creating a situation where students will be maskless and talking seems very risky?

# Socializing Behaviors Outside of School

We are concerned about families not following all of the guidelines outside of school. If kids who are in different cohorts play together are families increasing our risk of infection?

Are there ways for families to have safe playdates?

Should we be concerned about kids who participate in outside activities (i.e. sports)?

What do we do if we see kids outside of school who are not wearing masks or following social distancing guidelines?

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# Testing

What are the pros and cons of conducting testing? What does testing tell us?

Some colleges are offering testing regularly to avoid asymptomatic exposure. Will Bernard Zell be providing or requiring testing at some point?

# V. Questions Submitted Via Chat

# VI. Scenarios and Approaches

# Scenarios and Approaches

**Household member of a student has close contact* with someone with a positive diagnosis or has been diagnosed as positive**

- All members of the household should remain home; seek to self-isolate within the home.
- Student taught through Extended Absence mode.
- If close contact only, student may return following testing of exposed family member or pediatrician clearance.

**Student or teacher has a positive diagnosis**

- Close contacts must quarantine and should seek to self-isolate
- Household members of close contacts should stay home
- Cohort moves to Distance Learning initially but may return following testing if no close contacts
- Grade may need to go to Distance Learning for academic consistency if teachers were in close contact

- Positivity rate over 5% across three data sets
- Absenteeism school-wide ~25%
- Transmission in two unrelated grades (simultaneous)
- Shortages of PPE/safety measures

- School monitoring key variables for continued safe operations
- Will convene Executive Committee and Advisory Board to determine strategies for individual grades, divisions, or school-wide

**Close contact is defined as interaction with any individual within 6-feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes.*

# Scenarios and Approaches

I just got an email from my employer that one of my colleagues has tested positive. I didn't have close exposure to this colleague but my employer sent out an email saying that our office is closed for 14 days. Does my child need to stay home with me?

My family was at a gathering over the weekend and one of the children who we were with has tested positive for COVID-19. What should we do?

# Scenarios and Approaches

What level of contact requires a cohort to stay home? If an immediate family member tests positive but the student does not, does the entire cohort remain at home?

Is the period for a cohort to quarantine 10 days or 14 days? Will a negative test be required for someone who tests positive before they return to campus?

If one of our children is in a class that has to quarantine, does our other child still go to school in person?

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# Scenarios and Approaches

What data will the school be looking at to trigger changing its plan? Will Chicago's positivity rate drive the move to distance learning? More definitive evidence of children being infectious?

Is there a set number of cases at school before the whole school would close for a time?

How will BZ Beyond and extracurricular activities impact the number of students exposed to each other?

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**Dr. Matthew Philip**
*Medical Director of Clinical Innovation, DuPage Medical Group*

**Jodi Rosen**
*Senior Director, Innovation, Walgreens Boots Alliance*

**Dr. Sharon Rosenberg**
*Pulmonologist, Northwestern Medicine*

# Thank you for joining us.

Please save-the-date for upcoming divisional webinars.

Early Childhood
Thursday, August 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Lower School
Tuesday, August 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Middle School
Tuesday, August 18 at 8:00 p.m.

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