

- **Will the second semester schedule change after spring break?**

No, the schedule with four synchronous learning days (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday) and one asynchronous day (Wednesday) per week will remain the same for the rest of the semester. The second semester daily schedule will also remain the same.

- **Will students be socially distanced in the classroom?**

Yes, students will be socially distanced 3 to 6 feet to the extent possible, per updated [IDPH](#) and [ISBE guidance](#), in all classrooms and common spaces. The allowances of social distance of 3 to 6 feet means that schools must require universal masking (IDPH).

- **Are face masks still required?**

Yes. Face masks are required for all students and staff in the building at all times, except as follows:

- When eating
- When outdoors and social distancing of 6 feet is maintained
- For staff when alone in a classroom or office with the door closed

Students and staff members will be required to wear a mask while at school regardless of their vaccination status, per updated ISBE and IDPH guidance that mandates universal mask wearing in schools.

- **Will the definition of a close contact be changed and how will this affect quarantining?**

A close contact is still defined as anyone who was within 6 feet of a confirmed case of COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period during the infectious period (with or without a face covering). Students who are deemed to be a close contact will be contacted directly by a nurse or an administrator. A school nurse will determine the length of their necessary quarantine in collaboration with the local health department.

IDPH, along with CDC, continues to recommend a 14-day quarantine for children, unless they have been fully vaccinated or have had a positive COVID-19 test in the past 90 days. If you are notified by a school nurse that your student has been identified as a close contact, please inform them of your student's vaccination status or if they have had COVID-19 in the past 90 days, as this will impact their need to quarantine. District 155 will continue to collaborate with the McHenry County Department of Health for best practices regarding contact tracing.

Higher risk close contacts, including unmasked lunchroom companions, high and medium risk contact sports teammates and opponents, and music class participants may be assessed for contact less than 15 minutes, as determined by the local health department (IDPH).

- **If my student has COVID-like symptoms, do they need to stay home?**

Yes, regardless of whether or not your student is fully vaccinated or has had a positive COVID-19 test in the last 90 days, they need to stay home if they exhibit symptoms. If they receive a positive COVID-19 test, a parent should notify their student's school, following which an administrator or school nurse will contact you regarding the necessary isolation procedures. Students should not return to school until they have been told to do so by a school nurse.

If your student exhibits any of the following symptoms, they should NOT come to school, regardless of their vaccination status:

- Fever of 100.4°F or higher
- New onset of moderate to severe headache,
- Shortness of breath,
- New cough,
- Sore throat,
- Vomiting,
- Diarrhea,
- New loss of sense of taste or smell,
- Fatigue from an unknown cause,
- Muscle or body aches from unknown cause

- **When can my student return to school after experiencing COVID-19 symptoms?**

District 155 will continue to follow the [IDPH COVID-19 Interim Exclusion Guidance](#) regarding when it is safe to return to school after the onset of symptoms and/or a positive COVID-19 case.

- **When can my student return to school after being identified as a close contact?**

District 155 will continue to follow the [IDPH COVID-19 Interim Exclusion Guidance](#) regarding when it is safe to return to school after close contact with a positive COVID-19 case. [IDPH, along with CDC, continues to recommend a 14-day quarantine for children.](#) A period of quarantine can be reduced to 10 days ONLY if a close contact becomes symptomatic. If a close contact develops symptoms, they must stay home at least 10 calendar days from onset of symptoms AND for 24 hours with no fever (with no fever-reducing medication) AND experience improvement of symptoms (IDPH).

- **If my student exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, can they obtain a doctor's note to return to school before their isolation period is over?**

Yes, if a doctor provides an alternative diagnosis, your student may be able to return to school with a doctor's note detailing **BOTH** of the following:

1. There is no clinical suspicion for COVID-19 infection AND
2. Indicate an alternative diagnosis with exclusion consistent with this diagnosis (IDPH).

This information must be provided to and evaluated by the school nurse.

- **Do I still need to fill out the symptom self-certification form before my student enters the building?**

Yes, students will still be required to self-screen for symptoms and fill out the symptom self-certification form daily before boarding the bus and entering the buildings. Students will be required to present a green check mark upon arrival to school. If they do not present a green check mark upon arrival, they will be asked to perform a temperature check and certify their symptoms before entering the building. Students experiencing a fever or symptoms during the day will be sent to the school nurse.

- **Is a temperature check required before entering the building?**

Students will be required to temperature check before entrance to the building until spring break in an effort to protect those staff members that will not be considered fully vaccinated until Friday, March 26. After March 26, it is anticipated that more than 80 percent of our staff will be vaccinated and temperature screening will no longer be required for students, per updated IDPH guidance.

Students will still be required to fill out the symptom self-certification form before arrival to school. An at-home temperature check will still be required on the symptom self-certification form. If they do not present a green check mark upon arrival, they will be asked to perform a temperature check and certify their symptoms before entering the building.

- **Where will students eat lunch? Where will students go for study halls? Will students be allowed to go outside?**

Common spaces such as cafeterias, study halls, media centers, auditoriums, etc. will be used to the extent that 3 to 6 feet of social distancing can be maintained, per updated ISBE and IDPH guidance. Students may have the opportunity to go outside during free periods when weather permits and can remove face masks **ONLY** when 6 feet of social distancing is maintained outdoors. 10-12 grade students will have open campus lunch hours.

- **How will I be notified if my student is removed from the waitlist?**

Students currently on the waitlist to return to the building for 4 days per week of in-person learning will be able to transition from full-time remote learning when class sizes and classroom space allows for 3 to 6 feet of social distance between students. They will be notified by a building principal when they have been removed from the waitlist.

- **Can I choose to place my student back in full-time remote learning?**

Students or parents who would like to change their instruction model should contact their building principal directly.

- **Will the district monitor out-of-state travel of students and staff over spring break?**

No, we will not be mandating this as it is not a requirement in the updated guidance from ISBE and IDPH. It is the responsibility of each individual family to quarantine as necessary after traveling.

- **If my student is an athlete, how will I know if they need to quarantine due to a confirmed positive COVID-19 case?**

Close contacts and necessary periods of quarantine for student-athletes as a result of participation in an athletic event is based on the risk level associated with their sport (not all sports have the same level of risk). If your student-athlete needs to quarantine as a result of participation in an athletic event, you will be contacted by the school nurse or a building administrator, who will collaborate with the local health department and follow all appropriate guidance.

- **What is the bus schedule?**

Due to our transportation partnership with District 47, bus pick up times on asynchronous Wednesdays will change beginning Wednesday, April 7. Bus drivers or a school administrator will notify students of changes to their pick up times prior to Wednesday, April 7. Transportation pick up times for synchronous learning days on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday will not change. If you have additional questions regarding your student(s)' transportation, please contact the TJA transportation office at (815) 455-0558.

- **Will there be a graduation for the Class of 2021?**

Graduation is scheduled for Saturday, May 15 and will take place outdoors with all appropriate safety mitigations at each of our buildings. Decisions regarding outside of school events such as prom and graduation ceremonies will be made in consultation with the local public health department. Senior students and families will receive specific details regarding graduation after spring break.

- **Who can attend the district's prom-like event on May 14?**

Seniors are invited to attend their school's Senior Celebration as an alternative to the district's typical off-campus prom. Current juniors may also be invited to attend, depending on COVID-19 mitigation efforts and gathering limitations at the time of the event. Each student attending will be allowed to bring **one** guest to the event. Students may bring a guest from another D155 school, but guests from outside of the district will not be permitted.

Seniors received an email from their principal with event details and a survey to complete if they wish to attend, so that our buildings can maintain appropriate capacity limits and safety mitigations as outlined by the CDC, IDPH, and MCDH. Safety precautions such as mask wearing and social distancing will be required at the event.