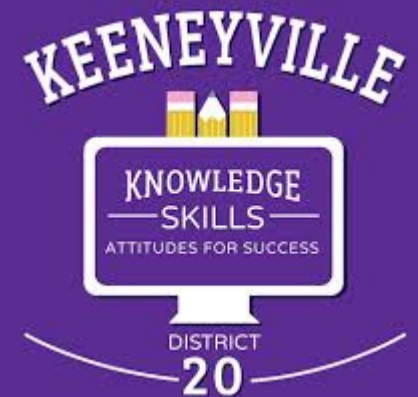


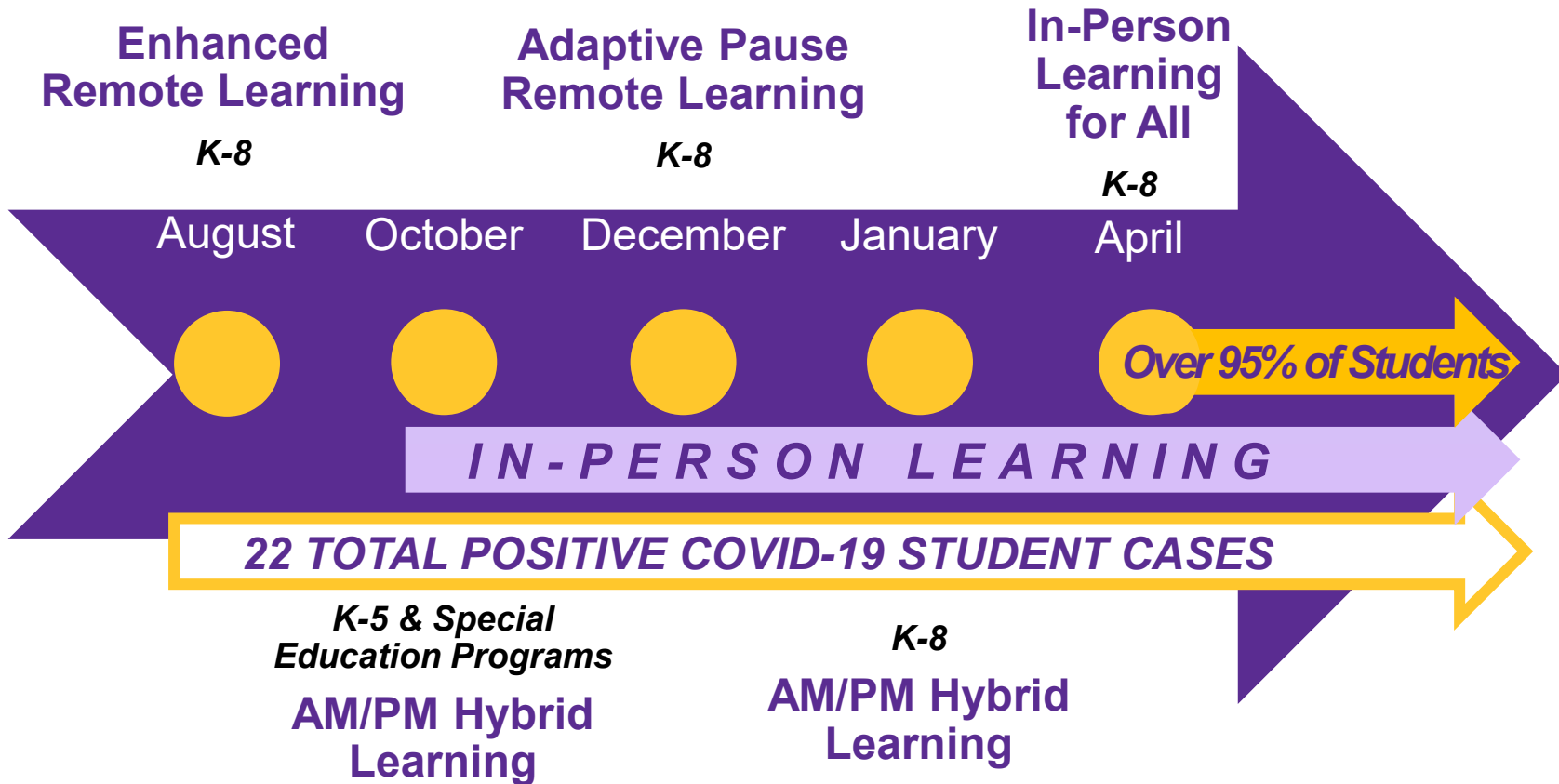
Return to Learn



**Board of Education Special Meeting
Thursday, July 29, 2021**



Celebrating Our Success 2020-2021 School Year



Return to Learn Plan

Continued Foundational Beliefs

The District's consistent goal during the pandemic has been for all students to return to in-person learning in a way that meets current state and local guidelines and maintains a safe learning environment for all students and staff.

- ***Health and safety of school community***
- Academic rigor and social emotional support
- Relationship-building
- Following state and local guidelines

Updated Guidance for Schools

- *The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released updated COVID-19 Guidelines for Schools, which have been fully adopted by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), and the DuPage County Health Department (DCHD).*
- **Frequently Changing Guidelines:** Similar to last year, school guidance continues to be updated, modified, and clarified frequently.

June 30	Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) releases masks study
July 9	CDC releases updated school guidance for 2021-22
July 9	IDPH + ISBE fully adopts CDC's 7/9 guidelines
July 16	JAMA retracts masks study
July 19	American Academy of Pediatrics releases updated school guidance
July 20	DCHD fully adopts CDC's 7/9 guidelines
July 26	IDPH releases updated FAQs for schools
July 27	CDC releases universal masking guidance for K-12 schools
July 27	IDPH fully adopts CDC's 7/27 universal masking guidelines for schools
July 29	DCHD recommends CDC's 7/27 universal masking guidelines for schools
July 29	CDC + DCHD state that DuPage County is now experiencing "substantial" COVID-19 community transmission

Key Guidance for Schools

- **In-Person Learning is a Priority**
- **Vaccination Strongly Recommended**
- **Layered Mitigation Strategies**
 - ✓ Especially where schools service younger children who are not yet eligible to receive the vaccine
 - ✓ Including face masks, physical distancing, handwashing & disinfection, ventilation, staying home when sick, getting tested, contact tracing with quarantine and self-isolation.
- **Monitor community transmission and vaccination rates**

Need Flexible & Adaptable Plan

- *District 20 continues to follow COVID-19 guidelines for schools to protect the health and safety of our students and staff and return to 100% in-person learning.*
- After reviewing all of the **current guidelines and information available**, along with other information from Lake Park High School feeder districts, and in consultation with the D20 Board of Education, we have developed a plan outlined in this presentation to allow for a Return to 100% In-Person Learning.
 - ✓ It is expected that the guidelines, FAQs and information may **continue to change** during the 2021-22 school year.
 - ✓ It is also possible that local transmission rates and/or vaccination rates and eligibility may change.
 - ✓ **District 20 will remain flexible and adapt our Return to Learn Plan as needed throughout the school year, including the possibility of decreasing or increasing mitigation strategies to keep our students and staff safe. We will continue to update our students, families and staff every step of the way.**

Return to 100% In-Person Learning

- District 20 can meet our goal and provide in-person learning for 100% of our students for the full school day, five days a week.
 - ✓ Please note that “remote learning” or “hybrid learning” as we experienced last school year will **no longer be available** as an instructional option, per ISBE’s mandate of in-person instruction for all.
 - ✓ We will ensure students who are in self-isolation or quarantine continue to receive access to instruction.
- Return to a “normal pre-pandemic” school day with traditional attendance, with layered mitigation strategies to keep our students & staff safe.

Early Childhood Center	Elementary Schools	Middle School
<p>8:30am – 11:00am <i>AM Session</i></p> <p>12:30pm – 3:00pm <i>PM Session</i></p> <p><u>First Day of School</u> Thursday, August 19</p>	<p>8:30am – 3:20pm <i>Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays</i></p> <p>8:30am – 2:30pm <i>Wednesdays</i></p> <p><u>First Day of School</u> 1-5: Tuesday, August 17 K: Monday, August 23</p>	<p>7:45am – 2:35pm <i>Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays</i></p> <p>7:45am – 1:45pm <i>Wednesdays</i></p> <p><i>Blue/Gold Schedule</i></p> <p><u>First Day of School</u> Tuesday, August 17</p>

Layered Mitigation Strategies

Continued use of District 20's successful layered mitigation strategies. We will begin the 2021-22 school year implementing these strategies and re-examine if COVID-19 guidelines, information, and/or community transmission/vaccination rates change, including increasing or decreasing the mitigation strategies as needed.

Vaccination

Strongly encourage complete COVID-19 vaccination for all eligible individuals

(currently 12+ yrs. old)

If the age for vaccine eligibility changes, we will re-examine mitigation strategies.

Visit DCHD website for information on free testing & vaccination clinics.

Face Masks

Masks will be required inside school buildings for all individuals including teachers, staff, students, and visitors.

Masks will not be required outdoors.

Masks will be required by all students and adults on buses.

Physical Distancing

Physical distancing of at least 3 feet will be implemented as much as possible.

Breakfast & lunch will allow for physical distancing of at least 3 feet.

Schools will continue to implement safety protocols with drop-off/pick-up procedures.

Locker usage will be limited, as needed.

Hygiene/Cleaning

Hand hygiene practices implemented throughout the school day.

District **disinfectant specialist** during school day & disinfectant spray in every classroom.

Nightly cleaning using microfiber cleaning program. Hospital grade EPA-registered disinfectants.

Improved ventilation & air quality in all buildings.

Contact Tracing/Data

Closely monitor vaccination rates, reported cases in school & community transmission.

Daily health certification required by all students & staff. Stay home if sick.

Strongly encourage **COVID-19 testing**.

Self-isolation of positive cases & quarantine of close contacts unless vaccinated & asymptomatic.

Vaccination

- *Guidelines state that vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Promoting vaccination can help schools safely return to in-person learning as well as extracurricular activities and sports.*
- **We strongly encourage vaccination for eligible individuals.**
 - ✓ 78% of District 20 Staff have been fully vaccinated.
 - ✓ 26.5% of District 20 Students will be eligible for the vaccine as of the first day of school, August 17, 2021.
 - ✓ The current age for eligibility is 12 years and older. It is expected that age for vaccine eligibility may be lowered during this school year. If that happens, we will re-examine the layers of mitigation that are used.
- Please visit the DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) website for information on FREE COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics & Testing:

<https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19>

Face Masks

- *Following current guidelines, we will require face masks for all individuals (age 2 and older) inside District 20 school buildings, regardless of vaccination status. This will apply to all teachers, staff, students, and visitors.*
 - ✓ Face mask breaks will be provided during snack, lunch, recess, and at other times during the school day, when possible.
 - ✓ Face masks do not need to be worn outside.
 - ✓ All students and adults are required to wear a face mask while riding on the bus, regardless of vaccination status.

When are Face Masks Required?

	Students	Adults
Inside School Building	Required	Required
Outdoors	Optional	Optional
On Bus	Required	Required

Physical Distancing

- *We will continue to implement physical distancing of at least 3 feet in our buildings, as much as possible.*
- Schools will continue to implement **safety protocols** for arrival and dismissal to maintain as much physical distancing as possible.
- Breakfast and lunch periods will allow for at least 3 feet of physical distance.
- Locker usage will be limited, as needed. Students will have access to lockers at arrival/dismissal, lunch and recess. Middle School Students will be allowed to have backpacks or sling bags in the classroom.

Hygiene & Cleaning

- *We will continue to implement handwashing and respiratory etiquette, as well as cleaning and disinfection of our buildings as important layers of mitigation to keep schools safe.*
- **Enhanced Cleaning & Disinfecting**
 - ✓ Proper hand hygiene practices will be implemented throughout the day, with signage and frequent reminders for students.
 - ✓ High-touch areas will be disinfected throughout the day by a “disinfectant specialist.”
 - ✓ Disinfectant spray will be in every classroom to apply throughout the day that will reduce pathogens in minutes.
 - ✓ Nightly cleaning of every classroom using Microfiber cleaning program and hospital grade EPA-registered disinfectants with faster kill-time and broader pathogen spectrum applications.
- **Building & Ventilation**
 - ✓ Buildings completed 100% HVAC outdoor air building flush
 - ✓ Waterbury and Spring Wood received HVAC systems for improved air quality.
 - ✓ Increased outdoor air ventilation rates to maximize dilution of the return air.
 - ✓ Changed all air filters, clean coils, drains and all air handling units and unit ventilators.

Contact Tracing & Data

- *We will continue to encourage COVID-19 testing and staying home when sick and we and implement contact tracing in combination with self-isolation for positive cases and quarantine for close contacts.*
- **Daily Health Certification** will continue to be required for students and staff.
 - ✓ If an individual is experiencing any one of the symptoms listed, s/he cannot attend school that day and the absence must be reported to the school office.
- **COVID-19 Testing** is strongly recommended for symptomatic individuals.
- **Self-Isolation & Quarantine**
 - ✓ Individuals who receive a positive test result must report that information to school and **self-isolate for 10 days** and monitor for symptoms.
 - ✓ **Contact tracing** will be conducted to determine if there are any “close contacts” who were within 3 feet of a positive case for 15 minutes or longer when wearing masks (6 feet will be used when masks are not worn). Close contacts must **quarantine at home for 10 days** and monitor for symptoms. *Vaccinated individuals who are asymptomatic do not need to quarantine but should monitor for symptoms.*
 - ✓ We will ensure students who are in self-isolation or quarantine continue to receive access to instruction.
 - ✓ The school nurse will let you know when your student can return to school following self-isolation or quarantine.
- *We will continue to closely monitor COVID-related data, including vaccination rates, reported cases, and transmission rates to keep our students and staff as safe as possible. We may adapt our Return to Learn Plan, including increasing or decreasing mitigation strategies, if needed.*

Additional Information

- **Breakfast & Lunch:** Hand hygiene practices will be encouraged before/after eating and physical distancing of at least 3 feet will be implemented, as much as possible.
 - ✓ **Free breakfast** will be offered at school to all students before the school day begins.
 - ✓ **Free lunch** will be offered to all students daily, including hot and cold meals. Students can opt to bring lunch from home (no microwave use). Middle School Students will also be able to purchase ala carte items.
 - ✓ **Weekend & Holiday Meal Packs** are available to all families, with weekly Friday pick-up at Greenbrook 9am-10:30am.
- **Drinking Water:** Each building has at least one touch-less filtered water bottle filler for students and staff. These stations will be cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis. All other drinking fountains will be shut down. *We recommend that students bring a water bottle to school daily.*
- **Middle School Gym:** Students will not be changing into PE uniforms. Families do not need to purchase uniforms at this time.
- **Transportation:** Students and adults are required to wear face masks at all times on the school bus. Parents are encouraged to transport their child to/from school as much as possible.
- **School Supply Lists** are now posted on the district and school websites under the “For Parents” tab. Families should purchase **3-5 face masks** for their child to bring to school.

Looking Ahead for Families

- *Please note that we are continuing to receive ongoing updates and changes in COVID-related guidance for schools from CDC, IDPH, ISBE and DCHD. Our current Return to Learn Plan, including our layered mitigation strategies, may be modified as we receive more information. We will keep students, families and staff informed of any changes.*
- **Please Register for the 2021-22 School Year** if you have not already completed the registration process, so that we can adequately plan for your child to attend school in District 20. <https://www.esd20.org/registration>
- We will share additional information in the coming weeks relating to **Band, Sports, After School Activities, and Parent Orientation Nights.**
- **Before and After School Care** will be available at the elementary schools through the Hanover Park and Roselle Park Districts. Information and registration forms are available on our website or contact the park districts directly.

IMPORTANT DATES:

First Day of School – Grades 1-8
First Day of School – Preschool
First Day of School – Kindergarten
Institute Day – No School
Labor Day – No School

Tuesday, August 17
Thursday, August 19
Monday, August 23
Friday, September 3
Monday, September 6

Questions?

