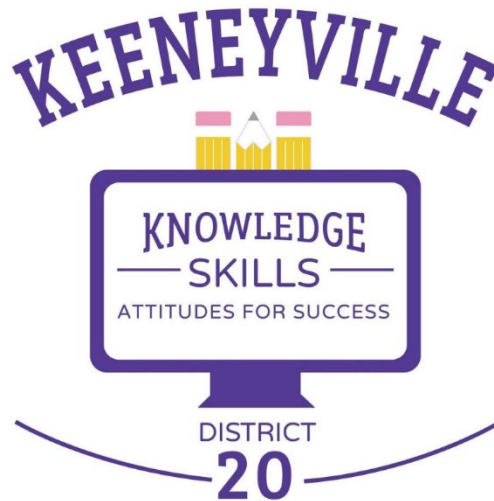


KEENEYVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 20

RETURN TO LEARN PLAN

100% In-Person Learning

School Year 2021-2022



Dated: August 13, 2021

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FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL MANDATES & GUIDANCE

Federal, state, and local government and agencies have declared that safe in-person learning for all students is a top priority for the 2021-22 school year. In order to keep school communities safe, protective measures are essential to students' health and academic growth.

On August 4, 2021, Illinois Governor JB Pritzker issued [Executive Order 2021-18](#) in support of safe in-person learning, requiring all public and nonpublic schools serving pre-kindergarten through 12th grade students to ensure the safety of students, staff, and visitors, including but not limited to:

- **Requiring the indoor use of face masks** by students, staff and visitors who are age 2 and older and medically able to tolerate a face covering, regardless of vaccination status, consistent with CDC guidance.
- **Requiring the implementation of other layered prevention strategies** to the greatest extent possible, including physical distancing, screening testing, ventilation, handwashing, and respiratory etiquette, advising individuals to stay home when sick and get tested, contact tracing in combination with appropriate quarantine and isolation, cleaning and disinfection, monitoring community transmission and vaccination rates, consistent with CDC guidance.

In the weeks prior to this state mandate, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued guidance for safely returning to in-person school in 2021-22 and strengthened its guidance for universal indoor masking in schools. ([CDC July 9, 2021](#) + [CDC July 27, 2021](#)). The Illinois Department of Public Health ([IDPH Guidance for Schools](#)), Illinois State Board of Education ([ISBE Guidance for Schools](#)), and DuPage County Health Department ([DCHD Guidance for Schools](#)) has fully adopted the CDC's guidance.

D20 RETURN TO LEARN PLAN

Foundational Beliefs

Since late May 2020, Keeneyville Elementary School District 20 has worked diligently to plan for and implement protocols to open our schools safely during the COVID-19 pandemic. Keeneyville's foundational beliefs have been at the heart of all decisions:

- Protecting the health and safety of all students and staff is the top priority.
- Safely bringing students and staff to school but also ensuring our practices keep students in school.
- Ensuring appropriate rigor to promote student academic and social growth. Interventions will be strengthened to address skill deficiencies that may have emerged due to the disruption in the educational process.
- Re-establishing relationships and ensuring that the social emotional needs of students and the basic wellness needs of families will be prominent in the learning, resource allocation, and decision-making process.
- Creating a reopening plan that complies with state and local directives and guidance while incorporating the agility and flexibility to adjust for the potential of rapidly changing environments and expectations.

District 20 has established and implemented protocols and procedures to maintain safe learning environments, through collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and DuPage County Health Department (DCHD). To ensure we are fully supporting and maintaining safe learning environments for students and staff, District 20 will:

- Regularly review updated guidance from CDC, ISBE, IDPH and DCHD.
- Engage families and staff to address concerns that may need to be addressed or identify additional preparations for classroom and non-classroom environments as needed.
- Communicate with parents, staff, students and the community on a timely and regular basis to ensure they remain informed of our plans.
- Communicate and collaborate with community partners to ensure we are supporting students, families, and the greater community.

Return to 100% In-Person Learning

District 20 is able to meet our goal and provide in-person learning for all of our students for the full school day, five days a week, with health and safety protocols and layered mitigation strategies in place. In Spring 2021, our schools had 95% of our students across the district safely engaged in in-person learning and we are looking forward to having 100% of our students in-person beginning Fall 2021.

- 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.

District 20 will return to a “normal pre-pandemic” school day with traditional attendance, with the layered mitigation strategies outlined in this Plan as follows:

Early Childhood Center	Greenbrook & Waterbury Elementary Schools	Spring Wood 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>

Student arrival and dismissal, as well as other school protocols will be developed by each of the schools to meet the needs of their individual buildings and to follow guidelines of CDC, ISBE, IDPH and DCDH. School protocols will be posted on our website under the “Return to Learn” tab. Please contact your school directly with any questions or concerns relating to school-specific protocols.

Health & Safety Protocols

District 20 has reviewed all current information from CDC, IDPH, ISBE, and DCHD. We have also reviewed information with other Lake Park High School feeder districts. In consultation with the Keeneyville District 20 Board of Education, District 20 will implement the Return to 100% In-Person Learning Plan presented to the [Keeneyville School District 20 Board of Education on July 29, 2021](#) and outlined in this document to protect the health and safety of our district and school community during the 2021-2022 School Year. ***It is our expectation that students, families, and staff follow the requirements and protocols in this Return to Learn Plan to ensure the safest and most effective learning environment.***

It is important to note that the current plan and strategies may change during the school year if the requirements or guidelines are updated. District 20 will continue to monitor the guidance and monitor COVID-19 transmission and vaccination rates in our community. We will remain flexible and adapt the Plan as needed, including the possibility of increasing or decreasing mitigation strategies to keep our students and staff. We will continue to update our students, families, and staff every step of the way.

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.

District 20 strongly encourages vaccination for eligible individuals.

- At this time, 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

Universal masking is currently mandated by the State of Illinois in Executive Order 2021-18, “requiring the indoor use of face coverings by students, staff, and visitors who are age 2 and older and able to medically tolerate a face covering, regardless of vaccination status, consistent with CDC guidance.” IDPH, ISBE, and DCHD have issued guidance and FAQs in full support of this mandate.

At this time, properly worn face masks will be required indoors in District 20 buildings and on the school bus. There are very limited circumstances where face masks are not required:

- When eating.
- For staff when alone in classrooms or offices with door closed.
- For individuals who are younger than 2 years of age.
- For individuals who have trouble breathing, or those who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face mask without assistance.

- For persons with a disability who cannot wear a mask, or cannot safely wear a mask, because of a disability defined by the ADA. ***Parents/Guardians must submit application and must be approved by District administration.***
- For individuals who have a medical contraindication (i.e., difficulty breathing) that prevents them from wearing a face mask. ***Parents/Guardians must submit application and must be approved by District administration.***
- For fully vaccinated staff when meeting with other fully vaccinated staff outside of settings where unvaccinated persons are present.
- For staff and students when outdoors (except where substantial or high transmission and unvaccinated should wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities with sustained close contact with those who are unvaccinated).

Face shields are not a substitute for face masks. Gloves or other PPE must be used as needed when assisting students requires close contact.

- Face masks must always be worn in school buildings even when social distancing is maintained. Face masks must also be worn for all individuals on the bus. Face masks do not need to be worn outdoors or while eating/drinking.
- Keeneyville will maintain a supply of disposable face masks if a staff member, student, or visitor does not have one for use. After use, the front of the face mask is considered contaminated and should not be touched during removal or replacement. Hand hygiene should be performed immediately after removing and after replacing the face mask.
- Keeneyville will provide one reusable mask to each student and staff member at the beginning of the 2021-22 school year. We recommend that students purchase additional 2-5 reusable masks. Employees and students may use their own face mask if it meets health and safety guidelines. See [CDC face mask guidelines](#).
- Teachers will be asked to occasionally take their classes outdoors when possible and weather permitting, to allow for face mask breaks.

District 20 will implement a process of progressive steps if a student refuses to wear a face mask to protect the health and safety of our school community and not disrupt the learning environment, similar to a student's non-compliance with other school behavior policies. Face Mask Protocols will include the following steps:

- Reminder of face mask requirement and request to put on face mask.
- Offer a disposable face mask.
- Explain importance of wearing a face mask to the health and safety of the school community.
- Instruction on how to properly wear a face mask.
- Allow opportunity for student feedback.
- Communication with parent/guardian.
- Explanation of consequences of refusal to wear face mask, including exclusion from school which is an unexcused absence. Remote instruction will not be provided if a student is excluded from school. Once the student is willing to wear a mask, s/he can attend school and will be allowed to make up any missed work.
- Progressive behavior problem strategies will be implemented if mask refusal continues.

Physical Distancing

Keeneyville has developed procedures to ensure three (3) feet of physical distance from other persons as recommended by CDC, ISBE, IDPH and DCHD to reduce the spread of COVID-19. This expectation pertains to students, staff, and visitors in all areas and settings, to the extent possible.

- We will continue to implement physical distancing of at least 3 feet in our buildings, as much as possible.
- Breakfast and lunch periods will allow for at least 3 feet of physical distance.
- Schools will continue to implement safety protocols for arrival and dismissal to maintain as much physical distancing as possible.
- 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.
- Visual reminders will be posted throughout school buildings and visuals will be designated (signs, tape, etc.) as indicators of safe distances in areas where students congregate or line up (e.g., arrival and departure, hallways, recess lines, libraries, cafeterias).
- Staff and students should abstain from physical contact, including, but not limited to, handshakes, high fives, hugs, etc.
- We will encourage the use of outdoor spaces to allow for mask breaks, weather permitting and pursuant to schedule with building administration.

Hygiene and 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.

Daily Health Certification

A health screening for all individuals entering our school buildings is an important measure to help keep our buildings as healthy as safe as possible.

Staff self-certify daily using a mobile app to confirm they do not have any COVID-related symptoms and have not been recently exposed to a positive COVID case.

Parents or Guardians must complete a **Student Health Certification Card** ([ENGLISH](#) / [SPANISH](#)) for their student(s) each day prior to entering the school building, certifying that the student is symptom and fever free that day. We thank families for their assistance in helping to keep our learning community safe for students and staff.

- Your child’s school will provide you with a Student Health Certification Card to be used for one week. At the end of each week, your child will be provided with a new card for the following week. Parents may use either the English or the Spanish version of the card.
- Each day, parents/guardians should evaluate the student’s health by asking the health-related questions below, as well as sign and date the Certification Card and return it to school with the student by placing it in the plastic pouch provided by school and clipping to your child’s backpack.
 - ✓ If your student answers “NO” to all three health questions – they CAN attend board the bus and/or school that day.
 - ✓ If your student answers “YES” to any of the health questions, including any one of the symptoms – they CANNOT board the school bus and/or attend school that day. The parent/guardian must contact the school to report the absence, including describing the student’s symptoms and whether they have had exposure or positive test for COVID-19.
- Staff will check each student to confirm that each child has a signed health certification before entering the bus or arriving at school.
 - ✓ **Bus Riders:** The bus driver will check for a completed card each day upon entry to the bus. If missing or incomplete card, the child will be returned to the parent/guardian at the bus stop for completion. If no parent/guardian is present, the child will sit in the assigned quarantine bus seat and will be sent to school nurse/staff upon arrival to school for evaluation, who will certify the student or contact the parents to pick-up the child.
 - ✓ **Car Riders:** School staff will check for a completed card each day in the drop-off line. If missing or incomplete card, the parent/guardian in the car certifies the student and completes the card. If the child’s parent/guardian is not present due to ridesharing, the student will be sent to school nurse/staff upon arrival to school for evaluation, who will certify the student or contact the parents to pick-up the child.
 - ✓ **Walkers:** School staff will check for a completed card each day upon arrival to school. If missing or incomplete card, the parent/guardian with the child certifies the student and completes the card. If the child’s parent/guardian is not present, the student will be sent to school nurse/staff upon arrival to school for evaluation, who will certify the student or contact the parents to pick-up the child.

COVID-19 & Exclusion from School

Individuals who are required to self-isolate due to a positive COVID-19 test result or quarantine as a close contact of a positive case will be excluded from school as required by Illinois state mandate and CDC, IDPH, ISBE and DCHD guidelines.

Positive COVID-19 & Self-Isolation

At this time, an individual with a positive COVID-19 test result will need to self-isolate at home for **10 days** from the date of the first symptom.

Students will be provided with asynchronous remote instruction (independent work) during the isolation period. This may take one day to be coordinate by your child's school. Synchronous ("live" or zooming-in) remote instruction will not be provided at this time.

Students can return to school after 10 days if they are fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication and no diarrhea or vomiting in the previous 24 hours.

The school will work with close contacts to determine when the student can safely return to school.

Close Contacts & Quarantine

At this time, an individual who is a "close contact" of a positive COVID-19 case will need to quarantine at home for **10 days** from the date of exposure. Fully vaccinated individuals or individuals who have had a positive test result within 90 days do not need to quarantine if they are symptomatic.

Students will be provided with asynchronous remote instruction (independent work) during the quarantine period. This may take one day to be coordinate by your child's school. Synchronous ("live" or zooming-in) remote instruction will not be provided at this time.

District 20 will conduct contact tracing when a positive COVID-19 case is reported to the school to determine who is a close contact that requires quarantine to protect the health and safety of the school community. District 20 will report positive cases and close contacts to DCHD to begin a case review as required by guidelines and will notify any and all close contacts directly.

The district will notify the school community (staff and families) when a positive COVID-19 case has been reported in the school. Parents will receive additional notification if their student was in close contact with the positive case.

Students can return to school after 10 days if they are fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication and no diarrhea or vomiting in the previous 24 hours. A student cannot "test out" of quarantine as a close contact with a negative test result. The school will work with close contacts to determine when the student can safely return to school.

Who is considered a "close contact?"

- **Students**
 - A fully vaccinated student does not need to quarantine unless they are symptomatic.
 - If masks were worn, a student in the classroom setting is considered a "close contact" if s/he was within **3 feet** of the positive COVID case for 15 cumulative minutes over a 24-hour period. So, if the students were masked while in the

classroom, those who were 3-6 feet apart do not need to quarantine. Students will be 3 feet apart in all classrooms, so the number of students who will need to quarantine should be much lower this year as compared to last year when 6 feet was the threshold distance.

- If masks were not consistently worn in the classroom, students who were within **6 feet** of the infected person for 15 cumulative minutes over 24 hours are considered close contacts.
- If the exposure occurred outside of the classroom (i.e., in the lunchroom) the threshold distance for determining if a student is a close contact is **6 feet**.

- **Adults**

- When exposure to a COVID-positive case is outside of the classroom OR if an unvaccinated adult in the classroom, an adult is considered a "close contact" if they were within **6 feet** of an infected person for 15 cumulative minutes over 24 hours.
- A fully vaccinated adult does not need to quarantine unless they are symptomatic.