



To: Dr. Charles Johns
Board of Education

From: Dr. R.J. Gravel

Date: Monday, July 25, 2022

Re: 2022-23 Opening of School Plan

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the 2022-23 Opening of School Plan as presented.

Background

Since August 2020, the school district has implemented a layered COVID-19 mitigation strategy that has evolved as local and state health guidance has changed. During the 2022-23 school year, the school district will continue its effort to resume normal operations with reasonable safety mitigations. This includes following health guidance recommended by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), and the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH).

On June 23, 2022, the IDPH and ISBE issued a joint statement, fully adopting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person Learning](#). Additionally, on July 12, 2022, Governor Pritzker issued [Executive Order 2022-16](#), which reissues and amends previous Executive Orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic through July 24, 2022.

Taking into consideration recent guidance, the administration is recommending the following COVID-19 mitigation plan:

- Face Masks
 - All students and staff may choose to continue to mask at all times.
 - Face masks will be recommended in school buildings and school buses when the [region's transmission level](#) is designated as high by the Cook County Department of Public Health.
- Testing
 - The SHIELD Illinois COVID-19 test will continue to be offered to students and staff. Testing will be facilitated through a new [unobserved collection process](#) that will allow testers to use a self-service kit at home and drop the sample off at the school in a collection box. Information for self-service testing will be made available to all students and staff during the first week of school.
 - Per Executive Order 2021-22, Section 3, which was extended by Executive Order 2022-16, unvaccinated employees will be required to test weekly.

- Vaccinations
 - Students and staff will continue to be encouraged to remain up to date with COVID-19 vaccines.
 - The Glenbrook School Health Center will offer vaccinations upon request. As a reminder, all students under 18 must have parental consent before receiving any services from the health center.

- Positive Cases
 - Based on current [IDPH guidance](#), if an individual tests positive for COVID-19, they should isolate for five full days. The individual should then wear a well-fitting mask around others for five additional days.
 - In accordance with the [IDPH and ISBE joint statement](#) referenced previously, and the State Superintendent's Remote Learning Declaration, "schools must continue to provide [remote learning](#) to any student who is under isolation or quarantine for COVID-19 based on the State Superintendent's Remote Learning Declaration."

- Building Maintenance Procedures
 - Daily cleaning of all spaces, including the disinfection of commonly touched surfaces.
 - Increased air circulation schedules (5:00 AM - 10:00 PM), with maximum outside airflow.
 - Availability of air purifiers for private offices and larger spaces upon request.
 - Access to PPE in classrooms and common areas, including:
 - Hand sanitizing stations;
 - Face masks; and
 - Disinfecting wipes.

During this evening's meeting, the community will have an opportunity to offer feedback to the Board regarding the plan during a public hearing. The scheduling of this public hearing partially fulfills the US Department of Education's requirements for a school to be eligible to receive funding under the American Rescue Plan. Specifically,

"An LEA that receives ARP ESSER funds must, within 30 days of receiving the funds, make publicly available on its website a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. Before making the plan publicly available, the LEA must seek public comment on the plan" ([US DOE, 2021, p. 3](#)).

Following this opportunity for public comment, the Board of Education will then have an opportunity to discuss the plan and take action to approve it in its current form or make additional revisions.