

2021-2022 School Year

Update for the Board of Education

July 15, 2021

2021-2022 School Year

- ISBE Resolution effective 2021-2022 school year
 - Full in-person learning is the top priority
 - Remote option available for students who have not received a vaccine AND need to quarantine
- General Updates
 - We had **25 exclusions** during the last week of school, and we have had **0 exclusions** during ESY (150 students) and Summer U (700 students)
 - IDPH states that vaccinated people do NOT need to wear masks nor quarantine
 - Masks are not required when outdoors for all students/staff
 - Close contacts are now defined as within 3 feet to a positive case
 - We do not plan to participate in screening for Covid-19
 - All other operations of our schools return to pre-pandemic procedures

Masks

- CDC/IDPH
 - Recommends, but does not require that masks be worn indoors by all individuals who are not fully vaccinated
 - CDC current order applies to all public transportation including school buses. Regardless of mask policies in schools, **masks must be worn by all riders on a bus.**
 - There are still requirements for masking during some inside sports (waiting for IDPH/IHSA updates)
 - A local district may remove any mitigation strategy, including masking, but should do so gradually and consider local situation.

Physical Distancing & Quarantine

- Close contacts are now defined as within 3 feet of a positive case
- Quarantine is currently 10 days for students
 - We experienced decreasing and very low exclusion #s in June (using 6 feet)
 - 25 students during the last week of school
 - 0 cases and 0 exclusions during Summer U and ESY
- Exception: In the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition *excludes* students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a [clinically compatible illness](#)) where
 - both students were engaged in consistent and [correct](#) use of [well-fitting](#) face [masks](#); *and*
 - other [K–12 school prevention strategies](#) (such as universal and correct mask use, physical distancing, increased ventilation) were in place in the K–12 school setting.

Mitigation Strategies in D25

- Education and communication is still key for D25
- Ventilation system has excellent rating
- General cleaning and disinfecting procedures are excellent & exceed guidelines
- Washing hands and hygiene etiquette will continue to be emphasized
- 3 foot distancing where possible/practical
- Contact tracing procedures
- Host vaccine clinics when vaccines are available for students
- Encourage sick individuals to stay home
- Testing for symptomatic individuals (if state continues)

Recommendation for 2021-2022

- Considering the excellent mitigation strategies we are skilled at implementing, and our D25 data from June – July,
 - Open school fully with all pre-pandemic procedures and activities
 - Educate community about IDPH’s recommendation of masks for unvaccinated individuals, but
 - Communicate that mask wearing for students is at the parent’s discretion
 - Communicate that mask wearing for adults is at the individual’s discretion
 - Communicate that flexibility continues to be important in case health department guidance changes
 - Provide for 3 foot distance where possible
 - Partner with health department on contact tracing/quarantine procedures

Remote Learning

Planned to Meet Requirements

- D25 must provide to students who have *not accessed* a Covid-19 vaccine AND ALSO are under quarantine
- D25 will have separate remote temporary classes for students who meet the ISBE declaration
- Other absences will follow typical absence procedures
- Sunsets when quarantine is no longer required

Optional

- Could extend into the future or for other required vaccines during 21-22 which would impact Policy 7:280 procedures

2021 Remote Classrooms/Quarantine

- Multi-grade (some flexibility) with grade level standards & typical class sizes
 - Kindergarten – 2nd
 - 3rd - 5th
 - 6th - 8th
 - Special Education (EC – 8th)
 - * May need to hire up to 3 long-term substitute positions if expected middle school exclusion #s increase
- General elementary schedule with same start and end times
 - Specials are asynchronous (typically 9 am – 10 am)
 - Lunch is asynchronous (typically 12 pm – 1 pm)
 - Related services, TBD on an individual basis
- Middle school start and end times with instruction for core subjects
 - Creative Arts and PE are asynchronous
 - Related services, TBD on an individual basis
- Program utilizes 4 *Extended Assignment Substitute* positions
 - * May need to hire up to 3 long-term substitute positions if expected middle school exclusion #s increase

Questions?