



# **Harvard CUSD 50 Planning for 2021-2022**

July 21, 2021



# May 2021

## **ISBE passed a resolution supporting in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year**

*"Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, all schools must resume fully in-person learning for all student attendance days, provided that, pursuant to **105 ILCS 5/10-30** and **105 ILCS 5/34-18.66**, remote instruction be made available for students who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine and are under a quarantine order by a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health."*



# How are we planning to open school in August?

**As of today, we are proceeding with the guidance that has been issued.**

We are planning to open school using ISBE guidance from May and July. We are preparing to have all students attend full-day in-person school/classes.



# How will school be different this fall?

**Safety procedures that were in place last spring when students return will remain in place.**

In the 20-21 school year, ZERO cases of school-based transmission in D50 were recorded. Safety has been, and will remain, our top priority.



# **How will we support students when we return to full in-person learning?**

- Universal academic screening to identify learning gaps
- SEL screeners to identify social- emotional needs/supports
- SEL Focus
- Focus on core academic instruction in the classroom and supplement with intervention, as needed
- Continue layered mitigation strategies and protocols



# What Can Help Keep In-Person Instruction Going and Minimize Quarantines?

## Voluntary Screening Testing

IDPH is offering a screening testing program for schools to participate in, which has been approved by the State. The program:

- Identifies persons who are asymptomatic and without known or suspected exposure
- Allows preventative measures to be put into place to prevent further transmission, and
- Allows districts to use a modified definition of close contact for those individuals participating.



# IDPH-Sponsored School Testing & Screening

## Shield-IL Saliva NAAT/PCR Test

- Results in 12-24 hours
- Free
- Met with SHIELD Tuesday
- 300+ districts already on board
- Ready D50 first full week of school
- Opt-in model is most common
- Twice a week testing most common



# **Will the District be collecting vaccination information?**

- Not at this time
- Athletics





# **Will remote learning be offered?**

- Not as a full-time learning model
- Yes - for students who have been quarantined



# **What if parents want their students to remain in remote learning?**

If a parent wants to continue their child(ren) in a remote setting, they could:

- Homeschool their child(ren)
- Enroll them in an online platform
- Seek a doctor's approval for homebound instruction due to the student having a medical condition

*Illinois State Board (ISBE) Homeschooling*

*Board Policy 6:150 Home & Hospital Instruction*



# CDC Guidance for Schools

- New Guidance from ISBE and IDPH endorsing the [CDC Guidelines for Schools](#) issued on July 9, 2021.
- IDPH Director, Dr. Ngozi Ezike: “Our goal is to protect the health of students, teachers, and staff so that in-person learning can resume as safely as possible,” said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike. “The CDC is right: vaccination is the best preventative strategy. As school board members, parents, teachers and superintendents plan for a return to in-person learning in the fall, we strongly encourage those who are not vaccinated to continue to mask.”
- [IDPH Press Release](#)



# CDC Guidance for Schools (cont.)

- Recommended safety mitigations should be continued. (3 feet of distance, indoor masking, etc.)
- Masks should be worn at all times indoors for those 2 and older who are not vaccinated.
- Vaccinations, screening testing, ventilation, hand washing, contact tracing, proper hygiene etiquette, robust building cleaning, staying home when ill are all items that can help protect safety to the the degree possible in school acknowledging that community spread must be considered.

# CDC Guidance for Schools (cont.)



- Since students under age 12 are not eligible for vaccination, layers of protection are essential for lower grades.
- Multiple prevention or mitigation strategies should still be observed.
- Local conditions may dictate and require alterations to plans schools make using established county metrics.



# CDC Guidance for Schools (cont.)

- Masks are mandatory for students while on the bus regardless of vaccination status.
- So there is a natural question from that distinction: Why are masks required for the bus, but recommended for during school? What does “should” mean?
- Less masking = more quarantining



# Other considerations

- Lunchrooms
- Athletics
- Bullying of any form will be monitored and addressed swiftly
- Quarantine protocols have changed
- How will remote instruction be provided for quarantined students?
- Further mitigations for in-person instruction (SHIELD, classroom purifiers)
- Hoping to share D50 plan in the next week or two
- ISBE FAQ and guidance revisions are expected soon which may change plans