

Creve Coeur District # 76

Back To School Plan



August 11, 2021

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Adjustments to the Back To School Plan:

(This document is a fluid document and subject to change)

The State of Illinois has adopted the CDC's updated guidance regarding COVID-19 prevention in K-12 schools for all public and nonpublic schools in Illinois. The updated federal guidance is currently in effect.

Public schools in Illinois are to look at the following areas as the school year opens: Community Transmission, Vaccination Coverage, Testing & Outbreaks.

The adjustments were discussed at a Return to School Committee meeting held on July 20, presented to the Board of Education at the July 27 meeting of the Board of Education, and formally approved by the Board of Education at the August 10 meeting of the Board of the Board of the Education.

The overall thought in regards to approaching the 2021-2022 school year is to try to return to as much as possible to a "regular school year."

The following adjustments will commence on **Wednesday, August 18, 2021:**

- **Kg. – 8th Grade:** All students in grades Kindergarten through 8th Grade will be provided the opportunity to attend in-person instruction (5) days per week.
- **Remote Learning:** The updated Return to School Plan provides for the adjustment of students not being provided a "choice" to receive an education through Remote Learning. Students to be enrolled to receive instruction through "in-person" learning. During the Summer, the Illinois State Board of Education unanimously approved a motion to return all public schools in the state of Illinois to in-person learning at the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year. Students not yet eligible for a vaccine and who are also under a quarantine order are exempt from the order.

- Students will be separated by space as the classroom or instructional area will allow. To increase student occupancy numbers, staff / teacher non-essential personal items / equipment may need to be removed from the classrooms. Storage of non-essential personal items will be the responsibility of the staff / teacher. Storage of District purchased items / equipment will be the responsibility of the District to locate storage.
- Students receiving services through an IEP will be in attendance (5) days per week. Students receiving services provided through an alternative educational program will receive services as provided by the alternative educational program and IEP.
- Breakfast / Lunch will be eaten in the Cafeteria / Gym. Students will be separated (social-distancing) as the space allows.
- Official School Hours will reflect pre-pandemic Official School Hours.

LaSalle School

Morning Kindergarten: 8:30 AM - 11:50 AM

Full-Day Kindergarten - Grade 4 : 8:30 AM - 3:10 PM

Doors Open for Students: 7:50 AM

Breakfast Served: 7:50 AM - 8:25 AM

Teacher Work Day: 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Parkview School

Grades 5 thru 8: 7:50 AM - 2:45 PM

Doors Open for Students: 7:20 AM

Breakfast Served: 7:20 AM- 7:50 AM

Teacher Work Day: 7:40 AM - 3:10 PM

District 76 schedules School Improvement Days for teacher in-service throughout the school year. Early dismissal times for each school on School Improvement Days are as follows:

Parkview School: 11:10 AM

LaSalle School: 11:40 AM

- Buses will run (5) days per week. The occupancy will be (50) per bus.
- After-School Tutoring Programs will continue at LaSalle Elementary and Parkview Schools as previously scheduled.
- Physical Education Classes to resume.
- Band and Music Classes to resume.
- LaSalle Elementary School continues using resources provided by the Creve Coeur Library.
- Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities to resume.
- Playgrounds open.
- Social-distancing practices will be provided as space allows. Face masks and washing of hands will continue.

Given new evidence on the COVID-19 Delta variant, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has updated the guidance for fully vaccinated people. As announced on July 27, CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. Children should return to full-time in-person learning in the Fall with layered prevention in place.

On August 4, Governor JB Pritzker (Executive Order 2021-18) announced masks will be required for students, teachers, staff, and visitors at pre-kindergarten – 12th grade schools. The new measure is part of the State's ongoing effort to combat a new surge as the Delta variant spreads.

The mask requirement is inclusive of youth sports and activities, with masks now required for all indoor extracurriculars and sports. In line with CDC guidance, masks are not required for activities outdoors where transmission risks and rates are lower.

Students and staff who are fully vaccinated with no COVID-19 like symptoms do not need to quarantine or to be restricted from school or extracurricular activities. CDC recommends that fully vaccinated individuals test three to five days after a close contact exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

Student Scheduling Considerations

State Superintendent of Education Dr. Carmen I. Ayala issued the following declaration mandating in-person learning with limited exceptions: *Beginning with the 2021-2022 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 to be made available for students who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine and who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine, only why they are under quarantine consistent with guidance or requirements from a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health.*

The majority of students need full-time in-person access to their teachers and support network at school to stay engaged, to learn effectively, and to maintain social-emotional wellness.

The District may need to enact a remote learning plan for certain grade levels, classrooms, or groups of individuals due to COVID-19 related illness identifications or Flu Symptoms that are unrecognizably different from those of COVID-19. These decisions will be made by the district administration in collaboration with local health agencies based on community and/or building metrics showing a rise in cases and positivity rates.

The District may be forced to implement complete remote learning for all students due to a resurgence of the COVID-19 outbreak, additional Executive Orders, or other Health Department guidance that requires such action.

This means that no matter what the format or how content is presented to students, it is considered relevant and worthy of learning. Teachers will present curricular topics through instruction in a variety of methods with face to face being the preferred method. If face to face instruction is not available, teachers will creatively work on how they will present new topics and information to students for their study. As part of the professional development of our teaching staff, we will continue to enhance our remote instructional practices, as well as how we provide assessments to check on student learning and address any learning loss experienced.

The expectations of student participation and grading procedures will continue to require the completion of classrooms assignments, assessments, and assigned homework. Students that do not complete assignments and participate in learning may have building consequences, including but not limited to, repeating the grade or enrollment drop due to lack of participation. Students must engage in their learning. If student work is continually late, the family will be contacted by the teacher or principal to better understand any barriers to the student's education that would need to be addressed. Students, parents, staff, and the community need to continue to be prepared for quick and immediate changes to the Learning Plan during the 2021-2022 school year.

Recess and Physical Education

In general people do not need to wear masks when outdoors (e.g., participating in outdoor play, recess, and physical education activities). However, particularly in areas of substantial to high transmission levels, people who are not fully vaccinated are encouraged to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated. When physical education or recess are held indoors, it is particularly

important for people who are not fully vaccinated to wear masks and maximize distance when possible.

Extra-Curricular / Co-Curricular Guidance (Updated June 6, 2021)

This guidance issued by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) pertains to all youth recreational sports, including, but not limited to, school-based sports (high school and elementary school), travel clubs, private leagues and clubs, recreational leagues and centers, and park district sports programs. This guidance does not pertain to professional sports leagues or college division level sports. This guidance supersedes all previously issued All Sports Guidance issued from DCEO, IDPH and / or ISBE.

Masking Guidelines for Sports Participants by Vaccination Status

No Mask:

- Baseball.

Mask:

- Boys' Basketball
- Girls' Basketball
- Girls' Volleyball
- Cheerleaders
- Warriorettes
- Vocal Music Contest
- Instrumental Music
- Yearbook Club
- Student Council
- Math Contest
- Chess Club
- Drama Club

- Scholastic Bowl
- Science Club

Social Distancing

Creve Coeur School District 76 students and staff are encouraged to maintain physical distancing (3 – 6 feet separation) throughout the school day as much as reasonably possible. Physical distancing applies to all areas including the classroom, common areas, and the main office. Student mixing will be limited to the extent possible.

Each building will develop procedures for movement between classrooms, entry/exits, restrooms, PE, etc. Building staff will review their student pick up and drop off procedures to maintain physical distancing. Staff break areas should be arranged to maintain physical distancing.

Face Coverings and P.P.E.

Per CDC and IDPH all unvaccinated and vaccinated individuals in school buildings (students, staff, and visitors) are recommended to properly wear a nose and mouth covering in all areas of the building, at all times, unless they are younger than 2 years of age; are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance. In accordance with ISBE and IDPH guidelines, face coverings are recommended to worn at all times in school buildings even when physical distancing is maintained. Unvaccinated and vaccinated students and staff who are not able to wear a face cover for medical reasons shall provide a doctor's certification which details the respective medical condition (s) and specific related limitations. Each request will be considered on an individual basis and an alternate accommodation may be required.

Creve Coeur School District # 76 will begin the school year with everyone being universally masked. The mask expectation would be re-evaluated on September 15th.

Gloves or other PPE must be used as needed when assisting students who require close contact. Creve Coeur School District 76 schools will have disposable masks

available upon request. Personal masks must be approved by the building principal. Bandanas will not be allowed as a substitute for a face mask. Face coverings must be school appropriate, follow all handbook rules, and cover a person's mouth and nose. Interpretation of suitable clothing, including face coverings, is left to the decision of the administration.

Best practices on the use of masks, including making and wearing homemade masks, can be found at IDPH Guidance for Use of Masks by the General Public.

Hand Hygiene

Frequent hand washing and hand sanitizing is the key to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Staff members and students must clean hands as often as possible with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 % alcohol be used. Staff and students must avoid touching their mouth, eyes, or nose as much as possible. Staff and students must sanitize hands upon entering the classroom each time. Hand sanitizer will be provided by the District.

Bus Transportation

The district will provide transportation for all students associated with normal bus routes as in years' past. Masks are required on the bus and must be worn when entering, riding, and exiting the bus. Students will not be permitted to ride the bus without a mask. Buses will continue to be sprayed and sanitized each day.

Drinking Fountains

Students should bring their own water bottle. Water bottle refilling stations will be utilized. Sharing water bottles will be prohibited. Students will not drink directly from the drinking fountain.

Cafeteria / Food Services

Breakfast and lunch procedures will be set up so that the number of students and adults in the cafeteria allow for appropriate social distancing to the greatest extent possible. Areas where students consume meals will be thoroughly cleaned

and disinfected. Food service personnel will use appropriate PPE, including gloves and face coverings, while preparing and distributing food. Hand hygiene must be performed prior to and after eating a meal or consuming any food items.

Classroom Seating and Learning Environment

Teachers and staff will work to find the optimal seating arrangement conducive to be in person learning. Each student's desk and chair will be wiped down at the end of each day in an effort to contain the spread of germs. Additionally, each room will be cleaned by the custodian with disinfectant spray and cleaning supplies. Additionally, carpets or rugs within the learning environment will be vacuumed every night and washed as needed. High touch areas will be sanitized and cleaned by staff throughout the work day using gloves and appropriate cleaning materials.

School Events & Field Trips

Schools should limit nonessential visitors, volunteers and activities involving external groups or organizations with people who are not fully vaccinated, particularly in areas where there is moderate-to-high COVID-19 community transmission. Anyone, including visitors, who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as flu or COVID-19, should stay home and seek testing and care.

Decisions regarding whether to host large group events including school dances and holiday programs will remain at the discretion of administration with consideration of school and community metrics and in consultation with local health department officials as necessary. School tours and visitors will be on a limited basis and require administrator approval.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Extra-curricular activities must follow IDPH and IESA requirements set forth for the school setting, which may include social distancing and appropriate use of PPE. Creve Coeur School District 76 will adhere to any capacity limits for indoor activities per CDC/IDPH or IESA guidelines if any are in effect at the time of the

activity. We will continue to adhere to the guidelines of the IESA for extracurricular activities as guidance is released.

Playgrounds

Use of playground equipment will be monitored, and the number of students using each piece of equipment may be limited a social distancing allows.

Symptoms of COVID-19

- New onset of moderate to severe headache.
- New cough.
- Shortness of breath.
- New loss of taste or smell.
- Sore throat.
- Fatigue from an unknown cause.
- Muscle or body aches from an unknown cause.
- Diarrhea or vomiting.
- Fever or a measured temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater.

Creve Coeur School District # 76 COVID- 19 Point of Contacts

Each school district in Tazewell County should designate a point of contact and backup point of contact to communicate with the Tazewell County Health Department on COVID-19 related matters. The point of contact (POC) communicates with the Tazewell County Health Department on COVID-19 related matters.

Staff and students are to communicate COVID-19 concerns and/or symptoms to the point of contact. Please be reminded of maintaining confidentiality when concerns and/or symptoms are being discussed.

COVID-19 Point of Contacts for Creve Coeur School District # 76 are:

☒ **LaSalle Elementary School**- Primary POC - Angie Thatcher- School Nurse , Backup POC - Dr. Beckwith- Principal : LaSalle Elementary School - 309-698-3605

☒ **Parkview School** - Primary POC - Angie Thatcher- School Nurse, Backup POC- Mr. Bevard- Principal: Parkview School - 309-698-3610

☒ **CC # 76 District Office**- Primary POC- Angie Thatcher- School Nurse, Backup POC- Mr. Johnson- Superintendent-CC # 76- 309-698-3600.

If unable to reach Angie Thatcher, Dr. Beckwith or Mr. Bevard...the contact is Steve Johnson.

Revised Definition of a Close Contact

For all individuals where exposure occurred outside of the classroom setting and for adults in the indoor P – 12 classroom setting, CDC defines a close contact as an individual not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. For students in the classroom setting, contacts who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student do not require quarantine as long as both the case and the contact were consistently masked. If they were not consistently masked, then close contacts are classroom students who were within 6 feet of the infected student for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period

In general, individuals who are solely exposed to a confirmed case while outdoors should not be considered as close contacts

The longer a person is exposed to an infected person, the higher the risk of exposure or transmission. The infectious period of close contact begins two calendar days before the onset of symptoms (for a symptomatic person) or two calendar days before the positive sample was obtained (for an asymptomatic person). If the case was symptomatic (e.g. , coughing, sneezing), persons with briefer periods of exposure may also be considered contacts, as determined by local health departments. Persons who have had lab-confirmed COVID-19 within

the past 90 days or those fully vaccinated, according to CDC guidelines, are not required to quarantine if identified as a close contact to a confirmed case.

Local health departments are the final authority on identifying close contacts.

Quarantine Procedures

Local health departments will make the final determination on who is to be quarantined and for how long. They also may determine that a close contact is not a candidate for modified quarantine due to a high-risk exposure (e.g. , sustained close contact without masking).

The CDC describes three options for quarantine:

- **Option 1:** Quarantine at home for 14 calendar days. Date of last exposure is considered day 0.
- **Option 2:** Quarantine for 10 calendar days after the close contact's last exposure to the COVID-19 case. Date of last exposure is considered day 0.
 - The individual may end quarantine after day 10 if no symptoms of COVID-19 developed during the daily monitoring.
 - SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing is recommended and may be required by the local health department.
 - The individual can maintain physical distancing and masking at all times when returning to school; for classrooms where masking is strictly adhered to as required, physical distance of 3 to 6 feet is acceptable for return.
- **Option 3:** Quarantine period is for seven calendar days after the last exposure if:
 - No symptoms developed during daily monitoring and the individual has a negative SARS-CoV- 2 diagnostic test (PCR) that was collected within 48 hours of exposure day 7 (starting on day 6 or after). The individual is responsible for obtaining a copy of the negative results for documentation purposes.

-The individual can maintain physical distancing and masking at all times when returning to school; for classrooms where masking is strictly adhered to as required, physical distance of 3 to 6 feet is acceptable for return.

Regardless of when an individual ends quarantine, daily symptom monitoring should continue through calendar day 14 after the exposure. If any symptoms develop during or after ending quarantine, the individual should immediately self-isolate and contact their local health department or healthcare provider to report their symptoms. The health department can provide guidance on how to safely quarantine and isolate within the household.

Community Transmission Definition

Re: Total New Cases Per 100,000 Persons in the Past 7 Days

Low Transmission	= 0 – 9.99
Moderate Transmission	= 10 – 49.99
Substantial Transmission	= 50 – 99.99
High Transmission	= Greater 100

Liability Exposure for COVID-19 Related Issues

The District will continue to consult with its legal counsel an insurance carrier regarding all potential claims pertaining to the pandemic. Current knowledge of the COVID-19 contagion is that it is not easily attributable to any one environment or source. The average person interacts with the public in his / her personal, social, family, and work lives which means it would be difficult to isolate any one location as the source of the contagion.

Staffing Levels

The District also plans to monitor staffing levels within each building to ensure optimal operations for teaching and learning. In the event that staffing levels drop below the ability for building to maintain optimal operations, the district will review options and make a decision.

Every effort shall be made to ensure that trained teacher substitutes are available in all employee categories to fill vacancies and / or absences that could be a result of the COVID-19 health precautions. Should you or someone you know wish to serve as a substitute for a certified or support staff position, please contact Mr. Johnson in the District Office at 309-698-3600 for further details. Similarly, please contact Mr. Johnson if you are someone you know is interested in serving as a bus driver.

School Closure Plan

Creve Coeur School District # 76 must be prepared for a short-term closure. Regardless of community spread, if an infected person has been in a school building in this circumstance, CDC, IDPH, and local Health Department guidelines will be utilized in making decisions for classroom, building, and district closures.

Coordinate with Local Health Officials

Once learning of a COVID-19 case of someone who has been in a school, Creve Coeur School District # 76 will immediately notify local health officials. These officials will help administrators determine a course of action for the school and programs.

- District Administration will notify the Tazewell County Health department of the positive case of COVID-19.
- The two entities will collaborate to confirm the positive COVID-19 case and to what degree a positive case plan (in development) will be implemented.

School Closure / Adaptive Pause

Depending on the circumstances, a school, grade level, or classroom may need to be closed or paused for a period of time. Families and staff members would be notified as to the length of the closure immediately. An initial short-term closure/adaptive pause allows time for East Peoria Elementary Schools and the local health officials to gain a better understanding of the COVID-19 situation impacting the school. Local health officials will help the school determine appropriate next steps, including whether an extended dismissal duration is needed to stop or slow further spread of COVID-19.

- Schools are not expected to make decisions about closures or canceling events on their own. Creve Coeur School District # 76 Schools along with the Tazewell County Health Department recommendations for the scope (e.g., a single school, multiple schools, or the full district) and duration of school dismissals will be made on a case-by-case basis using the most up-to-date information about COVID-19 and the specific cases in the community.
- During any school closure/adaptive pause, all extracurricular and other school related activities will be cancelled.
- During any school closure/adaptive pause, staff, students, and their families are discouraged from gathering or socializing anywhere to help limit further transmission.
- During any school closure/adaptive pause, remote learning will continue for all students M-F as scheduled. Details for remote learning will be communicated by the building principal at that time.
- During a full school closure meals will be offered as “grab-and-go” bagged lunches from a location to be determined for families affected by the school closure.

Extending the School Closure/Adaptive Pause

Temporarily dismissing PK-8 schools is a strategy to stop or slow the further spread of COVID-19 in communities. The need to extend school closures will be made in collaboration with the Tazewell County Health Department or as mandated by the office of the governor.

- School closures and event cancellations may be extended if advised by local health officials. The nature of these actions (e.g., geographic scope, duration) may change as the local outbreak situation evolves.
- During school closures (after cleaning and disinfection), Creve Coeur School District 76 schools may stay open for staff members (unless ill) while students stay home. Keeping facilities open: a) allows teachers to develop and deliver lessons and materials remotely, thus maintaining continuity of teaching and learning; and b) allows other staff members to continue to provide services and help with additional response efforts. Decisions on who may be allowed in the school will be made by the district administration in collaboration with the Tazewell County Health Department.
- Administrators must seek guidance from local health officials to determine when students and staff will return to schools and what additional steps are needed for the school community. In addition, students and staff who are well but are taking care of, or share a home with someone with a case of COVID-19 must follow instructions from local health officials to determine when to return to school.