

# **Executive Summary for Return to School**

We have created this plan to aid in navigating the reestablishment of our school where employees, students, and families feel safe and to reduce the impact of COVID-19 conditions upon returning to the district. The guidelines referenced in this plan are based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), Illinois Governor, Pearl City reentry Planning Committee.

*Regular updates have the potential of being made to this plan based on information provided by the CDC, IDPH, ISBE, and Governor.*

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

In order to ensure the continued well being of our employees and students the following guiding principles have been put in place:

1. EMPLOYEE AND STUDENT SAFETY MEASURES
2. HEALTH GUIDELINES
3. SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

## **DISTRICT WIDE SOLUTIONS FOR RE-ENTRY**

### **Solution A:**

**K-12- in person instruction Monday - Thursday (Remote Learning on Friday)**

**Opt in remote learning with firm commitment by student by July 31st (commitment for quarter)**

***In solution A a parent has two options for their child to receive instruction in the Fall. A parent may choose to have their child receive in-person instruction Monday-Thursday with Remote Learning on Friday; Or a parent may also decide to opt for their individual child to receive his/her instruction through remote learning Monday-Friday. Parents will need to decide which option by July 31st. Below are the descriptions and the expectations for both options.***

**Within this solution In-Person instruction would look like:**

- Socially distanced classrooms, as possible
- Preventative measures taken to attempt to keep supplies with only one student
- All students **MUST** wear masks for in-person schooling except for instances where:
  - Students are outside and can social distance
  - Students are eating or drinking and are social distanced
- Typical instructional practices to take place

- Social distancing, as possible, will be adhered to in all classrooms. It is to be noted that in some classrooms students will have less than six feet between themselves. Also, social distancing will not be able to be accomplished on a school bus.
- Parents will be self-certifying their child(s) health before getting on the bus or coming to school
- As a practice during the period of blended remote learning, whole group classroom instruction will be recorded by teachers and made available for students utilizing remote learning.
- Live streaming will be available for students that are learning remotely
- The recorded lessons should not be shared nor should the live streams be recorded without the permission of the teacher or school district
- Students will not share supplies, as possible.
- Locker Rooms may not be available for students during the traditional school day
- Signage will be posted throughout all buildings to help remind students of appropriate social distancing and hygienic behavior.
- The district will be in continuous contact with the Stephenson County Health Department for guidance and reporting purposes.

Within this solution Opt-In Remote Learning instruction would look like:

#### **Learning/Communication Platforms**

- In an effort to provide consistency and clarity, Google Classroom will be used as the learning and communication management platform for all students K-12.
- Faculty and staff will also be available through their Pearl City email address.

#### **Delivery of Content**

- Students will be provided with structured schedules
- Structured and scheduled engagement in academics
- Scheduled Google Meets and Zoom/web conferencing with classes with firm expectations
- Live streaming will be available for students that are learning remotely
- New curriculum will continue to be covered
- Streamed or recorded lessons from teachers to facilitate new learning
- Attendance based on being visually present or completing assignments/assessments

#### **Grading/Academic Expectations:**

- Students will be required to be present and attendance will be recorded through Google classroom
- Students will be expected to complete assignments and assessments by assigned due dates
- Grading and feedback on assignments and assessments will be the same/similar to general school expectations

#### **Student Supports:**

- General "office hours" of availability for faculty and staff
- Social-emotional supports from school counselors, social workers, staff members, and administrators will be available to support students

#### **Student Device and Access**

- All students who are in Remote Learning will be required to utilize district provided devices.

- Students will be monitored for safety

**It is important to reiterate that any student opting for Remote Learning SHALL remain in Remote Learning until the conclusion of the first quarter. A student's progress will be evaluated at mid-term to see if a change may be recommended by the school district. A deadline for notification to move from Remote to In-Person at the conclusion of the first quarter will be announced at a later date.**

*Within this solution Friday Remote Learning would look like:*

- Teacher available 8:30-1:30
- No new learning- Review, ask questions, preview
- Students will be required to log in and log out at specific times to record attendance
- Teacher time on Friday to create lessons for next week
- Monitoring of student work for those that are absent due to illness
- Limited access to the building will be allowed on Friday Cleaning Days

*Other Logistics to be mindful of:*

- With limited student capacity, some remote learning students participation, busing would be possible with current route situations and adjusting some routes
- Adhering to 50 persons in one space at a given time will provide some lunch complications.
- Creating quarantine areas near the nurse's office
- Teachers would need time to do remote learning and in-person learning
- Remote Learning would be either recorded or live for 7-12
- Possibly look at an in-person and remote learning teacher per grade level K-6
- Students opting in to remote learning because of resistance or fear not medical condition

*Major barriers for us to continue to consider:*

- If students with IEPs choose to OPT IN, preliminary guidance has been to reconvene an IEP meeting and rewrite the IEP to align with the current instructional practices, minutes, and services.
  - Current guidance for related services continues to encourage "telehealth" for both students in the traditional setting and Remote.
- Cost of video equipment
- Ensuring all students have appropriate support and all adults are able to create appropriate barriers
- Equity concerns

*Other things to consider*

- If a student opts in - would they be able to participate in extracurricular activities, including athletics
- Once a student OPTS into Remote Learning, they cannot come back to in-person until the end of 1st quarter (unless through a parent/teacher review due to lack of progress)

- A student can OPT into Remote Learning through a parent/teacher review or through a physician's note
- If the demand for Remote Learning intensifies, but is not state-mandated, this plan allows for us to easily meet the growing demand via staff flexibility

Next steps and timelines:

- July 15th- share with board
- July 16th - Share with parents/community
- July 31st- Parents need to let us know if they will do in-person or remote
- Committee will begin to prepare as though this is the option, but mindful it could potentially change if the sample size does not indicate it is feasible for us OR guidance from ISBE, IDPH, OCDPH changes and/or we move back to Phase 3 in Illinois and/or our region
  - This includes determining who would be in-person / Remote instructors if needed
  - Re-writing / constructing schedules
- Begin process to purchase streaming materials immediately
- Begin process to purchase additional materials necessary to have individual supplies, as appropriate

Alignment to Priorities:

Priorities	How they are addressed / considered
Student & Staff Safety	We follow IDPH guidelines with the exception of strict social distancing for in-person instruction and more importantly allow for parent/student choice.
Social-Emotional Health of Students & Staff	This provides students and staff with the greatest potential for social-emotional connection and health. Though it is noted that there may be an increase in anxiety due to potential exposure, this is mitigated by providing the option to OPT IN.
Academic Achievement	The curriculum will be able to be covered in full and there would be full alignment between in-person and Remote Learning expectations.
Community Support/ Function of Society	This diminishes the load on parents the most, as students would be at school as close to the normal schedule.
Ability to be agile	In this modality, we can easily flip to Remote Learning if necessary and to in-person if we move into Phase 5. This also allows students who are quarantined by ISBE/IDPH to easily transition into Remote Learning

**Solution B:**

**Remote Learning- Live and/or recorded for daily schedule for all students**

*Reasons we would need to move to Remote Learning:*

- Guidance from ISBE, IDPH, SCPH indicates that in person instruction is no longer safe
- High number of students test positive for COVID
- Illinois and/or our region move back to Phase 3 of Re-Opening