

Cornell CCSD 426

# Return to School

A Guide to the 2020-2021 School Year

**Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) RETURN TO SCHOOL Plan/Guidelines**

Contact information for questions concerning the Illinois State Board of Education guidance:

- IDPH Coronavirus hotline: 1-800-889-3931 or email - [DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV](mailto:DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV)
- ISBE: email - covid19@isbe.net or 1-866-262-6663
- Governor's office constituent affairs helpline: (217) 782-0244

**COMMUNICATION:**

This year, more than ever, it is vital that lines of communication remain open between the school and families. We need a commitment from every member of our school community (staff, families, students) to remain vigilant in monitoring symptoms of COVID-19. When in doubt, please keep your child at home. We understand that this has the potential to cause inconvenience to everyone; however, it is our hope that a temporary inconvenience will prevent long-term impact to our students, staff, and community members.

Beginning March 17, 2020, school districts throughout Illinois were required to close buildings due to the threat of COVID-19. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) “strongly encourages” schools to return to in-person learning at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year. It is important to note that these requirements and guidelines are subject to change, pursuant to updated public health guidance, changing public health conditions, and further directives from the ISBE. This will be a living document with changes being made as recommendation and/or guidelines change from the Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), etc.

As we move forward, it is imperative that parents and staff are aware of a few things that will necessitate flexibility. First, some of the ways we “do” school will be different this year. We will limit visitors entering our school building and activities being held in our building. Lastly, it is very likely that at some point this year we will ALL be remote learning for a period of time as a result of state closure, local closure, local outbreak, or lack of available healthy staff to conduct in person instruction. The advance notice for some of these circumstances may be very short and we will do our best to provide families and staff with information as soon as we can.

### **School Hours/Information:**

We are asking that no students arrive at school before 7:30 AM this year.

Breakfast will begin at 7:30 and end at 7:55 AM.

The School Day will begin at 8:00 AM.

### **School will be dismissed at 2:00 PM for the first nine weeks.**

First Day of School is August 20, 2020.

### **Other Informational Items:**

Student Temperatures will be taken daily at school.

Water Bottles **WILL** be allowed at school.

Students will not be allowed to drink from water fountain.

It is encouraged that sunscreen is brought to school as some instruction time may be outside.

All visitors, including parent meetings, need to be scheduled via office/teacher.

Student pick up will take place outside of the building. Please buzz the office.

# Cornell CCSD 426 Reopening Plan:

## Choice for Instruction:

- Full-Remote Learning for all Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup> grade students
- Full-In Person Instruction for all Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup> grade students

## Important information regarding each choice

1. Full-Remote Learning for all Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup> grade students
  - a. Student(s) will not physically attend Cornell Grade School.
  - b. Remote work will be done independently with lessons and assignments provided by the teacher(s).
  - c. Assignments will need to be turned in by the expected due date/time.
  - d. A drop off box will be outside of the school entrance and/or assignments may be turned in electronically.
  - e. Remote learning will not include synchronous classroom learning with students who are attending in person.
  - f. Will be allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activity at Cornell if student maintains 90% attendance rate. Subject to same eligibility requirements of in person students.
  - g. Check in with classroom teacher can take place between 2:00 and 3:15 PM or scheduled with teacher.
2. Full-In Person Instruction for all Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup> grade students
  - a. If a family chooses to send their student(s) to school, we will ask that they follow Health and Safety Protocols from IDPH.
  - b. Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 or who shows any signs or symptoms of illness will be asked to remain or stay home
  - c. Families and staff need to immediately inform the administration of possible cases in order to assist with contact tracing.
  - d. Those who have had contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or is suspected of having COVID-19 should isolate at home and monitor for symptoms for 14 days
  - e. **Student(s) must wear a mask unless a doctor's note is provided.**
3. Must declare remote or in person attendance on a quarterly basis, parents/guardians/students must declare by Friday, **August 7th, 2020.**
  - If a student declares remote for the first nine weeks, he/she will remain on the remote path for the first nine weeks. Students can change to in person or remote at each quarter.

- If a student becomes COVID-19 positive, during the in-person instruction period, they will be placed in the remote learning group until they are cleared by a physician. Once cleared, they will be allowed to return to in person instruction.
- The district will monitor students' attendance through completed homework each day *to be turned in by 9:30 p.m.*
- If the State Superintendent declares that Remote Learning Days are no longer deemed necessary, the district may change our remote learning policy.

### **Face Coverings**

- Everyone must wear a face covering at all times (Mask)
  - The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) has communicated that face coverings and social distancing are the goal whenever and wherever possible. Face shields have not been deemed effective for source control and are only to be used when other methods of protection are not available or appropriate. Face coverings must be worn always in school buildings even when social distancing is maintained
- A doctor's note may be obtained for a student to not be required to wear a mask because of prior or current medical ailments.
- In the case of a doctor's note being obtained and a student not being required to wear a mask, we would ask that the family considers the child wearing a school provided face shield. The school district believes that "something is better than nothing" in terms of protecting the students and teachers in the school setting, thus requesting but not requiring the shield.

### **Students / Staff / Parents Entering Building:**

District staff will check for a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit/38 degrees Celsius and currently known symptoms of COVID-19, such as:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Fever</li> <li>● Cough</li> <li>● Shortness of breath</li> <li>● Difficulty breathing</li> <li>● Chills</li> <li>● Fatigue</li> <li>● Muscle and body aches</li> <li>● Headache</li> <li>● Sore throat</li> <li>● New loss of taste or smell</li> <li>● Congestion or runny nose</li> <li>● Nausea</li> <li>● Vomiting or diarrhea</li> </ul> |
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- Students report to Gym upon arrival to sit in assigned seat.

- Parents/Guardian Not Allowed in building unless a meeting has been scheduled.
  - Pickup of kids stays outside
  - Drop boxes are outside for forgotten materials
  - Adults/Children Enter – Temperature Check Required

### **TRANSPORTATION:**

- Transportation for our students will be provided as previous years with updated guidelines from the ISBE and IDPH.
- All individuals on a bus must wear a face covering.
- No more than 50 individuals should be on a bus at one time.
- Every attempt will be made to promote social distancing on the bus.
- Students must undergo symptom and temperature checks, which may include self-certification, before boarding a bus.
- Drivers and monitors must wear approved and appropriate PPE and perform regular hand hygiene.
- Drivers and monitors must undergo symptom and temperature checks or self-certify and verify that they are free of symptoms before the start of each workday.
- Drivers and monitors who have a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit/38 degrees Celsius or symptoms of COVID-19 may not work.
- Drivers and monitors who become ill during their route should contact their supervisor immediately.
- All individuals on a bus must wear a face covering. Student transportation should apply the most feasible social distancing guidelines.

### **Office**

- No more than two additional people in the office at a time with superintendent and administrative assistants.
- Appointment only system
- Isolated space for sick students-foyer with chairs 6 foot apart
- Buzz down to office when students are on their way
- Students picked up outside-escorted

- Parents/Guardian Not Allowed in Building unless a meeting is scheduled
  - Pickup of students - Outside only
  - Drop box outside

### **Students**

- Each student assigned a mask or approved from home
- Each student assigned a Chromebook-2-8 Grades, I-Pads K-1
- Have to wear mask (excluding outside with proper social distancing)
- Suspend the use of lockers to help with social distancing, students will take backpacks to their homeroom. Students are asked to leave personal belongings items at home-only bring to school what you need: lunch, school books, etc.

### **School**

- Handwashing (Soap and Water Handwashing Schedule)
- Hand sanitizer station in each classroom – Enter and Exit with teacher providing sanitizer to each student
- Water Bottles used for drinking, no water fountain
- Bathroom schedule created by staff

### **Classrooms**

- Less Furniture (moving to hallways / closets / staff homes)
- No Carpet areas
- No common areas
- Rows of Desks/ 2 people per table
- 6 foot apart
- Canopies for outside instruction

### **Food Services Breakfast/Lunch**

- Breakfast in Cafeteria-6 foot apart
- Lunch – Foyer/Lobby, Library, Cafeteria
- 11:00 K-4 Lunch, 11:50 5-8 Lunch
- Sanitization of tables and chairs following each use
- More grab and go items than prepared meals
- Families who are 100% remote will have the option to pick up a daily breakfast and/or lunch during specified hours.

### **Outside Activities – Recess and PE**

- Locker Rooms will not be used
- Jr. High Students will NOT dress for PE, but will need PE shoes for participation
- Maintain 6 foot apart
- PE Equipment will be allowed with social distancing and ISBE/IDPH cleaning guidelines
- Outdoor activities encouraged

### **Band:**

- Instruments should not be shared at any time.
- Sanitize hands after using instruments.
- It is permissible for band members to remove their masks during the time they are playing, but only if necessary.
- Students should provide their own equipment for class; sharing of equipment between students is prohibited.

### **Staff**

- Mandatory Mask
- Teachers' Lounge Closed for dining / group gathering



- Staff asked to eat in their classrooms with only 1-2 colleagues all 10 foot apart
- Cleaning after use of printers, copiers, phones by staff

### **Entrances**

- Thermometer checks of all students
- Grades/Section of Building – Front Entrances
- Students report to gym upon arrival and sit in assigned seats

### **Extra-Curriculars:**

Extracurricular activities must follow the IDPH requirements set forth for the school setting, which include social distancing, appropriate use of PPE, limiting the number of individuals in one space to 10 individuals during Phase 3 and to 50 or fewer in Phase 4, and cleaning and disinfecting to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

### **Field Trips:**

At this time, field trips will not take place.

### **Grading:**

Cornell #426 will return to traditional grading policies, as recommended by ISBE, and make modifications as necessary. As we return to traditional grading policies, District #426 will ensure that students have all the necessary tools, technology, and teacher support at school and at home to complete all assignments, take assessments, and complete projects in a timely manner.

### **Student/Teacher Diagnosed with COVID**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Student / Teacher tests positive for COVID-19</u></b></p> <p>(IDPH will clarify whether this period of exclusion starts from the date of positive test or date of onset symptoms) – Date from positive test is typically the recommendation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kindergarten-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Classes:– All Students and their teacher in that student/teacher classroom are moved to Remote Learning for 14 Calendar Days</li> <li>If One to One contact between student and teacher – individual student and teacher will be moved to Remote Learning for 14 Calendar Days</li> <li>If a 6-8 teacher tests positive – Will be case by case basis on “classroom contact” of what grades and students will be 14-Calendar Day Remote Learning (Most likely entire 6-8 will be remote learning for 14-calendar days)</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">14 Calendar Days</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Teacher / Student exhibits one or more symptoms of COVID-19</u></b></p> <p>(Fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Period of exclusion starts on the date of onset of symptoms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher/Student asked to get COVID test</li> </ul> </li> <li>Families and Teacher(s) of students in class sent letter home about contact and options given regarding attendance until test results back</li> </ul> <p>Classroom Teachers and Staff do NOT have to be quarantined at home until test and/or when test comes back negative</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">14 Calendar Days</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Teacher / Student has contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Period of exclusion starts on the date of the most recent close contact</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">14 Calendar Days</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Teacher / Student is in close contact with someone who exhibits one or more symptoms of COVID-19</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Period of exclusion starts on the date of the most recent close contact</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">14 Calendar Days</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Teacher/Student has returned from a location with sustained widespread transmission, potentially including areas located within the United States or Foreign Countries</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">14 Days</p>