

UNITED 304 HEALTH PLAN FOR 2021-2022 | QUESTION & ANSWER FORMAT

(Subject to change pending further IDPH/ISBE guidance)

Will United 304 offer a fully remote option for the 2021-2022 school year?

No. However, we will have a practical and user-friendly education plan for those students who are out of school for an extended period due to Covid. This plan will closely resemble conventional plans from previous years for extended sickness or other reasons.

Will families be required to continue to daily self check their child(ren) for symptoms?

Yes. But at this time, United 304 will not require a daily reporting form. Even so, let's continue to be strict in keeping sick students home -- the single most important part of our plan. We need everyone's cooperation!

Are masks optional for the 2021-2022 school year?

Yes, that is the plan. All staff, students, and parents, whether wearing a mask or not wearing a mask, will equally be a part of United 304 with dignity and respect. This works both ways, and we will not allow this to become a divisive matter in our school. You can help in reiterating this in your homes. Thank you! We have a few teachers at a higher risk due to health issues. We're asking everyone in our community to support this. Remember: 96% of our classroom teachers marched into work for the 2020-2021 school year so our students could have in-person instruction and learning.

What about sports for the 2021-2022 school year?

We are anticipating full sports seasons this year; however, we are awaiting direction from the IHSA for high school athletics. Depending on the direction we receive from the IHSA, we may have pivots in our health plan for the high school. Protocols for our middle school sports programs will be directed primarily by our athletic conference.

Will United 304 contact trace during the 2021-2022 school year?

Upon notification of a positive Covid case, the health team will notify by email the classroom(s), bus route (if applicable), and club/team (if applicable) of the positive case; however, we will not specifically identify close contacts. Families will be aware of any positive cases in their child's classroom(s) and can make determinations for their own child. If a family decides to voluntarily quarantine their child, the quarantine cannot exceed 10 days. We will not uniquely contact trace every student who was within 6' or 3' of a positive case during the day. Please do not ask our health team or teachers for this information. Rather we will generally contact trace with these notifications outlined in the bullet point above. We also believe this portion of our health plan will remove peer pressure barriers to getting tested.

Reminder: United 304 saw more than 709 students in quarantine during the 2020-2021 school year, and 208 of them reported symptoms (29%) -- most of which noted close contacts/exposure in places other than school, too. To state this differently, more than 6.9% of all quarantined students actually tested positive for COVID 19 by definition never got sick during the 2020-2021 school year. Our nurses have kept all of this data to help inform future planning and decision-making.

Will United 304 require or track Covid vaccination status?

No. United 304 will not require or track this. However, at this time, you will see some shortcuts in the health plan for families who volunteer this information. The Health Task Force would also like to note that vaccines have shown effectiveness. Consider talking with your personal physician about whether this vaccine is right for your children.

What if my child is sick? How soon can he/she return to school?

Students with a fever, loss of taste/smell, sore throat, and/or body aches will require clearance from a medical provider before returning to school. For these specific symptoms, vaccinated students may return after 24 hours of no symptoms.

- Students with a cough, runny nose, vomiting, and/or diarrhea will require 24 hours of no symptoms before returning. This is true for all students, regardless of vaccination status.
- Siblings without symptoms may come to school.

What if my child or someone in my household has an exposure to someone who has tested positive for Covid?

If anyone in the student's household tests positive for Covid, the student must quarantine for 10 days. Fully vaccinated children in the same household will not need to quarantine if they are without symptoms. This information would have to be confidentially volunteered to our health team, as the health team will not ask. For an exposure outside of the student's household, assuming your child does not have any symptoms, we are largely leaving it up to the home -- he/she may return to school. We simply ask that you closely monitor your child for symptoms...and all children in the household stay home if symptoms develop. You are also welcome to voluntarily quarantine your asymptomatic child in these circumstances for any period of time up to 10 days.

What if my child tests positive?

Please report all positive (and negative) test results to your building nurse. Upon reporting the positive test to the health team, you will receive specific instructions for your child, which may include isolation of your child and quarantine of others in your household. As a reminder, fully vaccinated children in the same household will not need to quarantine if they are without symptoms. This information would have to be confidentially volunteered to our health team, as the health team will not ask. **While your child or anyone in your household waits for test**

results, please stay home. Your child will be able to continue with their United 304 education during quarantine, although significantly different and more simplified than the plan for the 2020-2021 school year.

Will United 304 require social distancing in the 2021-2022 school year?

In general, this will not be a consistent practice, but may implement it if needed.

What should I expect regarding lunch?

The free lunch program appears to still be available to districts this year (but not mandatory). For the most part, we will discontinue lunch in the classrooms and return to our designated lunchrooms on campus.

What should I expect regarding bus protocol?

As of this writing, IDPH is mandating that masks be worn on school buses.

- *Masking is universally required on buses and school-related transportation. The [CDC's order](#) requires that regardless of the mask policy at school, passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses.*

What about cleaning and hygiene protocols?

We will continue with nightly cleanings using approved and effective products. We also will continue to maintain our hand sanitizing stations throughout the campus and encourage regular handwashing and desk cleaning. Good hygiene practices will be a regular topic with our students.

Will the disinfecting foggers still operate in the classrooms?

Yes. We will continue this practice weekly. On a related note, where and when possible, we will continue to open windows and find time to be outdoors.