



BUNKER HILL

— Community Unit School District #8 —

Inspire...Empower...Innovate

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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<https://www.bhcsd.org>

DRAFT 8/2/2021

BUNKER HILL CUSD #8

CONTINUITY OF LEARNING (BACK-TO-SCHOOL) PLAN 2021-2022

Introduction

Bunker Hill CUSD #8 is excited for the upcoming school year, which we hope is as close to normal as possible while striving to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our buildings. To that end, we have developed the following Continuity of Learning Plan (many districts are referring to as a Reopening Plan, but Bunker Hill #8 was always and always will be open). Bunker Hill CUSD #8 will strive to communicate in a timely manner any and all changes to our document. The intent of this plan is to ensure that our students can achieve to their fullest potential (specifically returning to full-time in-person instruction) while providing a safe learning environment during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Masks

The most recent updated guidance (7/27/2021) from the CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. Based on current transmission rates, the Bunker Hill CUSD #8 will vote on the following options at a special board meeting later this week (options found at end of document). A CDC order (congruent with IL Phase 5) states that while on a school bus, all individuals must wear a mask. Students will not be allowed on a school bus without wearing a mask. This includes bus rides for extracurricular activities. Regulations for participation in IHSA sports and activities will be determined by the IHSA.

Physical Distancing

Bunker Hill CUSD #8 teachers will be encouraged to spread students out as much as possible within their classroom. We will strive to maintain at least three feet distance to the greatest extent possible while indoors; however, there will be times, such as during lunch, where maintain three feet will be difficult.

Quarantining & Contact Tracing

Students who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate per CDC/IDPH/MCPHD guidelines. Parents of students in close contact at school will be notified that their student was near a student or staff member who tested positive. Depending on the option approved by the Board of Education, students will be quarantined or will be allowed to participate in a “test to stay” option (more details at end)

Symptom Screenings

By sending their children to school, parents and guardians are certifying that they have conducted a daily symptom check of their child. Parents and guardians must keep their child home if they exhibit one or more of the following COVID-like symptoms:

- Fever (100.4 degrees or higher)
- New onset of moderate to severe headache
- Shortness of breath
- New cough
- Sore Throat
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell
- Fatigue from unknown cause
- Body or muscle aches from unknown cause

Handwashing & Respiratory Etiquette

We will continue to promote frequent handwashing and/or use of hand sanitizer. We will also continue to reinforce proper respiratory etiquette such as covering coughs and sneezes.

Cleaning & Disinfecting

Classrooms, door handles, and other commonly touched surfaces will be sanitized daily. Students are encouraged to bring a personal water bottle to be used at school.

Vaccination

While the district views the vaccination status of students as a private choice, the district administration or school nurse may have to verify vaccination status in order to allow them to avoid certain mitigation measures, such as quarantines.

Disclosure

The contents of this plan are subject to change based on Federal, State, or Local guidance and/or conditions. Any changes will be communicated via email, posted to the district website as appropriate. While current CDC/IDPH recommendations are not mandates, the district will ensure tort immunity is not jeopardized. In the case of a mandate, the district is obligated to comply or risk personal as well as professional liabilities, including willful or wanton negligence.

Remote Learning

Pursuant to the ISBE declaration: “Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, all school must resume fully in-person learning for all student attendance days, provided that, pursuant to [Section 10-30 of the Illinois School Code], remote instruction be made available for students

who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine, ONLY while they are under quarantine consistent with guidance or requirements from a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health.”

Layers of Mitigation Measures

Bunker Hill CUSD #8 will utilize the following measures as may be deemed necessary from time to time:

- Contact Tracing
- Shield or BinaxNow Testing
- Hosting vaccination clinics
- Masking requirements
- Social Distancing strategies
- Additional Cleaning and Disinfection
- Ventilation (MERV-13 or HEPA filters in HVAC, classroom doors/windows open, bus windows cracked a few inches when possible)

Options to be Presented to BH #8 Board of Education:

#1 – Masks “optional” but STRONGLY recommended for unvaccinated staff/students as well as all students under the age of 12. Surveillance testing implemented.

#2 – Masks “required” for PK-6 grades and STRONGLY recommended in 7-12, especially among unvaccinated students. Surveillance testing implemented.

#3 – Universal masking to begin the year, with less restrictive or more restrictive mitigations in place depending on “Tiers” of risk. (Tiers below) with surveillance testing implemented.

Mitigation Tier #1 (lowest risk) – Transmission below 8%
-- Masks optional at the discretion of the parent. Masks required on buses by all individuals. Masks utilized by students during groupwork/cooperative learning activities in order to minimize quarantines
-- Quarantines will be required of close contacts
-- Additional mitigations as suggested based on guidance or directives from the CDC, IDPH, or the MCPHD.
Mitigation Tier #2 (substantial risk) – Transmission exceeds 8%
-- Masks required of all students and staff regardless of vaccination status
-- Visitors may be limited
-- Field trips and some programs may be canceled, postponed, or held with limited capacities
-- Additional mitigations as suggested based on guidance or directives from the CDC, IDPH, or the MCPHD.
Mitigation Tier #3 (greatest risk) – Transmission and Quarantines are substantial
-- These mitigations would only be applied in most dire of circumstances as either the urging of local health officials or a mandate from ISBE or Governor Proclamation, not from Bunker Hill CUSD #8 officials.