

Dr. Nathan Schilling, CSBO
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Mark Crotty, CSBO
Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations

Dr. Tanya Carter, CSBO
Executive Director of Student Services

Mr. David Kostopoulos
Executive Director of Curriculum & Assessment

Ms. Candace Cavalier, PHR, SHRM-CP
Director of Human Resources

LANSING SCHOOL DISTRICT 158



www.d158.net • #158Strong



BOARD OF EDUCATION
Mrs. Mary Kelly, President
Mr. Abimael Durán, Vice President
Mrs. Denise Williams, Secretary
Mr. Robert Wood
Mr. James Long
Mrs. Melissa Taylor

ADMINISTRATION CENTER
18300 Greenbay Avenue
Lansing, IL 60438-3009
P: (708) 474-6700
F: (708) 474-9976

"Putting the Children First with a Commitment to Continuous Improvement"

August 6, 2021

SCHOOL REOPENING LETTER

Dear **#158Strong** Community,

In less than two weeks, Lansing School District 158 will reopen all of our buildings for the start of the 2021-2022 academic year. Both our Board of Education and the Illinois State Board of Education have publicly declared that in-person schooling should resume for all children this fall. However, although COVID-19 vaccinations have become readily available and positivity rates have decreased, the health pandemic – including highly contagious variants of the disease – continues to be a concern. Inasmuch, District 158 will begin 2021-2022 in Phase IV of our Reopening Plan with near normal, but not fully restored, circumstances.

In reopening our schools for all students on Wednesday, August 18, District 158 will observe current recommendations of the CDC and IDPH. Phase IV protocols include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Cleaning and sanitation procedures from our E-Learning & Reopening Transition Plan last year will remain in place. We will also continue to provide resources such as hand sanitizer in all of our schools.
- Face masks will be required for everyone on school buses and inside District 158 schools, including staff, students, and visitors regardless of vaccination status. This includes activities before and after the regular student day. Face masks may not always be required outdoors per CDC guidelines.
- Social distancing of at least three (3) feet will be maintained as much as possible. However, it is understood that in some circumstances (e.g. meal service) it may not be possible to do this entirely.
- Temperature checks for students will not be conducted like we did for Phase III of reopening. However, staff may still take student temperatures throughout the day if issues are identified or reported.
- Frequent hand washing, self-screening of symptoms, contact tracing, improved ventilation systems in our buildings, and similar health and safety procedures will be sustained from last school year.
- Students who are required to quarantine due to COVID-19 issues will be provided asynchronous remote learning with staff support and communication in a manner consistent with how other absences may be handled. This includes a combination of virtual and/or paper-based educational activities.

- Breakfast and lunch procedures may be modified to provide additional COVID-19 mitigations (e.g. seating less students at tables and/or in rooms, using modified schedules or multiple rooms, etc.).
- For students with significant medical issues (e.g. immunocompromised) for which documentation can be provided, homebound services may be available during Phase IV. Families should contact District 158's Student Services Department with questions or for more information about this program.
- If necessary, wave busing of students may be utilized for arrivals and dismissals. In these cases, extended learning opportunities may be offered to students who are dropped off early or picked up late from school. Students should not enter elementary school buildings before 8:15 AM during Phase IV.
- In certain circumstances, additional safety procedures such as plexiglass barriers, extended social distancing, face shields, etc. may be utilized by staff in order to remove face masks when necessary.
- COVID-19 vaccination and testing information (e.g. locations, registration procedures, etc.) may continue to be shared with stakeholders in a variety of formats as this becomes publicly available.
- Phase I, II, and III procedures of District 158's E-Learning & Reopening Transition Plan remain available at a variety of levels (e.g. classroom, building, district, etc.) should more severe COVID-19 issues arise.

These procedures were developed with input from staff, families, the Lansing Education Association, and Board of Education. More information specific to each building will be released in the near future. Please don't hesitate to reach out to the office of your child's school with any questions about our reopening.

District 158 is committed to resuming near normal schooling for our students during Phase IV while maintaining safety procedures consistent with public health recommendations. Note that the procedures above are subject to change based on the circumstances of COVID-19 and will be re-evaluated on an ongoing basis. I wish all of our stakeholders an enjoyable conclusion to the summer. See you again soon!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan S. Schilling".

Dr. Nathan S. Schilling, CSBO
Superintendent of Schools
Lansing School District 158