



**Western Springs D101**  
**2021 - 2022 Return to School Handbook**  
**Fall 2021**

Last updated 8-17-2021

**Table of Contents**

<b>Foreword</b>	2
External Guidance	
Internal Guidance	
<b>Mitigation Plans</b>	3
Mask Requirement	
Additional Mitigation Tactics	
<b>Definitions</b>	4
<i>Close Contact</i>	
<i>Fully Vaccinated</i>	
<i>Quarantine</i>	
<i>SHIELD PCR Test</i>	
<i>Test-to-Stay</i>	
<b>Bus Transportation</b>	4
<b>School Hours &amp; Lunch</b>	5
<b>Extracurriculars &amp; Field Trips</b>	5
<b>Classroom &amp; Instructional Expectations</b>	6
<b>Miscellaneous Topics</b>	6
Locker Rooms	
Lockers	
Volunteers	
Tents	
Snacks	
Water fountains/Bottle filling stations	
<b>Close Contact, Vaccinations &amp; Quarantine</b>	7



**Western Springs D101**  
**2021 - 2022 Return to School Handbook**  
**Fall 2021**

Last updated 8-17-2021

**Foreword**

D101 is committed to students and staff learning and teaching in person, all day, in a safe environment for the 2021-22 school year.

*The Return to School 2021 - 2022 Handbook is a living document that will continue to be updated throughout the school year as needed. When substantive changes and/or additions are made, they will be sent via email to parents and staff.*

**EXTERNAL GUIDANCE FOR 2021 - 2022**

Per the Governor's [Executive Order 18](#) of August 4, face coverings (masks) shall be worn at school indoors and in all school-related transportation, and that joint guidance of ISBE & IDPH must be followed by pre-K thru grade 12 schools.

The [CDC](#) encourages unvaccinated individuals (age 2+) to wear masks indoors.

The [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) (AAP) recommends universal mask wearing in school, for students (over the age of two) and staff alike.

**INTERNAL GUIDANCE FOR 2021 - 2022**

D101 will continue to monitor local conditions, including community rates of COVID, local vaccination rates, in-school transmission rates and other data as appropriate to assist in decision-making throughout the school year.

Vaccination Rate for 60558: [https://ccdphcd.shinyapps.io/covid19/Local COVID Data](https://ccdphcd.shinyapps.io/covid19/Local%20COVID%20Data) by Zip Code (Northwestern University)



## Mitigation Plans

### **MASKS**

#### **Required:**

During the school day, on District-provided transportation, & during indoor athletic & extracurricular events

#### **Not Required:**

During all outside events (morning line-up, outdoor athletics, outdoor PE, recess, etc.)

#### **The Future:**

To be determined if/when the State mask mandate is lifted. D101 will take into consideration guidance, mandates, local health metrics, vaccination status, etc. in determining next steps on this issue if/when the mandate is lifted/changed.

**Mask Breaks:** Mask breaks will be built into student days at both elementaries & McClure.

**Note:** Gaiters and two-way valve masks are not acceptable face covering options.

### **ADDITIONAL MITIGATION PLANS**

- **Social Distancing** (*INDOORS*) >3 ft as possible (will be possible in most classroom and non-classroom settings)
- **HVAC** improvements in place: HEPA filters in classrooms, bipolar ionization units installed throughout the District, humidifiers in classrooms, fresh air intake maximized as weather allows.
- **Cleaning:** Building/classroom cleaning with Vital Oxide (outside of school hours), including evening fogging, as was done in 2020-21.
- **Hand washing** will be encouraged and sanitizing units will again be used.
- **Self-Certification** will NOT be a daily requirement this school year, but parents and staff are asked to stay home and away from school if COVID/other illness symptoms are present.
- **Outdoor Tents:** Schools will again have the option to utilize outdoor space for classes/lunch.

### **POSITIVE CASE of COVID - TIMELY NOTIFICATION PLAN**

D101 will begin the year continuing with timely notification of positive COVID cases within our schools & weekly updating of the District COVID tracker



## Definitions

**Close Contact** - (*INDOORS ONLY*) Within 3 feet of a positive COVID case for 15+ minutes within a 24-hour period (assumes both parties are masked)

**Fully Vaccinated** - 2 weeks following the second COVID vaccination shot (Moderna & Pfizer) or two weeks after the Johnson and Johnson shot

**Quarantine** - Requirement to stay out of school for a period of time to reduce transmission of the COVID 19 virus. This is an IDPH (CCDPH) mandate and is overseen by the departments of public health.

*14 days or 10 days w/no COVID symptoms or 7 days w/a negative COVID test*

**SHIELD PCR Test** - Saliva based PCR test that identifies asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic cases of COVID-19. Testing is administered in-school at zero cost and is optional for students.

**Test-to-Stay** - When applicable, parents may elect to participate in the Test-to-Stay program versus quarantining their child. Test-to-Stay involves students participating in saliva based COVID testing (SHIELD) in their school building (at no cost) in lieu of quarantining. Testing will be required on days 1, 3, 5, & 7 following Close Contact. A negative test result allows for the student (or staff member) to remain in school uninterrupted.

## Bus Transportation

All students/staff/drivers traveling on a school bus, whether for transportation to/from school or to/from a sporting event/activity, will be required to wear a mask covering their mouth and nose.

Regular bus transportation practices will resume as they were prior to last school year, including route offerings and bus capacity allowances.



**Western Springs D101**  
**2021 - 2022 Return to School Handbook**  
**Fall 2021**

Last updated 8-17-2021

## School Hours & Lunch

### Elementary School Day

8:30am - 11:30am & 12:30pm - 3:30pm

*\*instructional minutes are the same as pre-pandemic levels*

### Elementary School Lunch - 60 minutes in length (11:30 am to 12:30 pm)

- Option to eat lunch off-campus (same as pre-pandemic)
- Fun lunches will be reinstated
- 30 minutes for lunch and 30 minutes for recess
- Lunch will be held in the gymnasium and/or classrooms, with outdoor recess a priority as weather allows. Specifics regarding the use of classrooms, gymnasiums, and/or other building areas will be determined by building space and staffing availability
- Milk will be sold (same as pre-pandemic)

### McClure School Day

8:10am - 3:20pm

### McClure School Lunch - 60 minutes in length (11:18 am to 12:18 pm)

- On-campus lunch (30 minutes) will be paired with a 30-minute advisory period
- Option to eat lunch off-campus (parents must commit to the on- vs off-campus lunch option for the month, but may change this choice in upcoming months)
- Fun lunches will be reinstated
- Sixth-grade lunch will allow for six feet of distancing for most/all students
- Seventh- and eighth-grade lunch will allow for three feet of distancing for most/all students, with an additional lunch option allowing for six feet of distancing in the school library (capacity on this option is limited)
- Milk will be sold (same as pre-pandemic)

## Extracurriculars & Field Trips

It is planned that all sports and clubs, including band, orchestra, choir and school plays will resume to pre-pandemic levels. However, extracurricular services provided by groups outside of D101 (yoga, Chess Wizards, etc.) will not return at least during the first semester.

*\*Masks are not required for outdoor sports/activities*

*\*Masks are required for all indoor sports/activities*



## Classroom & Instructional Expectations

**Instruction** will return to pre-pandemic options within the classroom, with the use of large group and small group instruction, student movement and collaboration/partner work.

**Pacing** of curriculum coverage will be very typical, as instructional minutes return to pre-pandemic levels.

**Homework** is expected and will return in age- and grade-level appropriate levels.

**Furniture and room configurations** are no longer limited. Student desks, soft seating and small and large group configurations will be in place in classrooms.

**Supplies**, equipment and other classroom devices can be shared by multiple students.

**Academics and social-emotional learning** will both be emphasized as focal points of our classroom work with students. Learning plans in case of a quarantine situation will be handled on a case-by-case basis, with a grade-level point person facilitating student learning plans with the student's classroom teacher(s).

## Miscellaneous Topics

**Locker Rooms** will again be open to students to change into PE uniforms at McClure for physical education class.

**Lockers** will be used at all four buildings, similar to pre-pandemic school years.

**Volunteers** will be permitted inside our buildings during the school day on a targeted and limited basis.

**Tents** will be used again this fall, as each school building will have a tent placed on property the week of August 30.

**Snacks** will not be part of the elementary classroom again this school year.

**Water fountains and bottle filling stations** will be operational in all four buildings.



**Close Contact, Vaccinations & Quarantine**

**Close Contact Definition**

(*INDOORS ONLY*) Within 3 feet of a positive COVID case for 15+ minutes (assumes both parties are masked)

**Quick Reference - Quarantine Requirements**

<b>Student/Staff Status</b> <i>*mask-wearing indoors by all parties is presumed</i>	<b>Quarantine</b>
<b>Confirmed Case of COVID 19</b>	14 days (or 10 days with no symptoms) regardless of vaccination status
<b>Vaccinated staff/students who are in Close Contact</b>	No quarantine required as long as staff/student are not experiencing symptoms
<b>Unvaccinated staff/students who are in Close Contact</b>	Quarantine Options A) 10 days of quarantine without symptoms <b>OR</b> B) 7 days of quarantine without symptoms AND a negative PCR test result (on/after day 6) <b>OR</b> C) Participate in Test-to-Stay saliva-based COVID testing on days 1, 3, 5, & 7 after exposure
<b>Staff/students who have a lab-confirmed diagnosis of COVID 19 within the 90 days prior to Close Contact exposure</b>	No quarantine required as long as staff/student are not experiencing symptoms

Close Contact determination is the function of the local department(s) of public health (Cook County Department of Public Health) and will be facilitated by D101 nurses in conjunction and consultation with CCDPH.