



February 22, 2022

Dear Center Cass Families,

The Board of Education has called a Special Meeting for tonight at 7:45 pm to hear the District 66 revised mitigation plan. The revised mitigation plan being proposed to the Board is as follows:

TRANSITION DATE	TWO WEEK DEADLINES TO TRANSITION TO:
February 28, 2022	Mask Optional for everyone (except Bus, High Risk After School Activities & Band/Chorus)
March 14, 2022	Mask Optional for Band/Chorus, Afterschool Activities, and Spectators at Activities
March 28, 2022	Distancing Less Than 4 feet and Field Trips Permitted
April 11, 2022	Optional (not Mandatory) Screening for Unvaccinated Employees and Students in Activities
April 25, 2022	Volunteers Permitted Without COVID Restrictions (unless Ill or Quarantining)
May 9, 2022	Scale Back Disinfection Measures
May 23, 2022	Discontinue Contact Tracing for Quarantine and Mask Wearing on Bus (or new guidance)

Please note, above are deadlines or benchmarks. If data continues to be good, students transition effectively, and the physical environment is ready, we will transition sooner than the deadlines above. You will receive advanced notice first. We will monitor the factors below in making our decision to scale back mitigations:

FACTOR	WE MAY RESTORE MITIGATIONS IF:
Law	Illinois Supreme Court Finds Mitigations Constitutional - <i>(not clear - creating own plan)</i>
Governing Agencies	Governor, IDPH, ISBE, IESA, or ROE Require/Recommend of Us - <i>(not clear - creating own)</i>
Outbreak	Nexus Exists for 3 or More Positive Cases in a Setting - <i>(currently zero)</i>
School Cases	8% of School Population is Positive at any One Period in Time - <i>(currently less than 1%)</i>
Community Cases	8% of Community in Our Three Zip Codes is Positive on 14 Day Average - <i>(currently 3.5%)</i>
Whole Child	Safety Threat to Development of the Whole Child - <i>(conditions good to start rollback)</i>

Please note that the factors above are factors to consider. It does not mean that if one of the factors comes to fruition that all mitigations will come back. I have no interest in bouncing our students back and forth between mitigations. The last few years have been hard enough on our kids. We want to send a clear, consistent, and positive message to our students. In addition, in the rare situation we did have an outbreak in a small group, we would add mitigations only if necessary and to specific populations, not necessarily all. Should the Board approve the revised mitigation plan, teachers are prepared to start social stories this week to prepare students for the transition to an environment where some people will be masked and others won't.

I can't thank you enough for your support of our employees as we lived together through the pandemic. We entered the pandemic using data to guide decisions, and we plan to exit that way. The Board meeting agenda and link is posted on the District homepage. A separate message will be sent this evening or tomorrow morning with the Board's decision. Please feel free to contact me with questions.

Sincerely –

Dr. Wise - Superintendent of Schools