

# Flanagan-Cornell Unit 74 Schools

## 2021-2022 Guidelines and Information

The safety of our students and staff remains the number one priority of the school district as we transition back to in-person instruction. It is our belief that students learn best and are the most engaged when they are comfortable, safe, not distracted, and on campus. The 2020-2021 School Year showed 95% of our students chose in-person instruction. Less than .05% of our student population tested positive for COVID-19 during the '20-'21 school year. Taking into account the State's continued improvement and the fact that we have had success with the increased safety measures put in place, the district will return to normal operating school hours (8:15-3:03) and not provide a remote learning option unless it is a special circumstance approved on an individual basis. If your student is at increased risk of severe illness or lives with people at increased risk of severe illness which will prevent them from attending school in-person, please reach out to the appropriate building principal ***immediately***. Documentation is required for medically necessary remote-learning and approval is at the district's discretion.

With that in mind, along with the current guidelines from the CDC, Flanagan-Cornell Unit #74 has adopted the following plan to safely return to school for the 2021-2022 school year that follows the guidelines set forth by the FC 74 School Board of Education. Note, if circumstances change, the guidelines will be adjusted.

### **Health and Safety Measures**

- Masks/Face coverings may be worn but will not be required. School district personnel will not be required to wear a face covering but may. Hence, face coverings will be considered optional to begin the school year. This is the same for those who ride the bus.
  - For those who bring/wear a mask, it will still need to be approved by district administration and conform to the district/school dress code.
  - The district will continue to practice social distancing as much as possible when feasible.
- If students or staff have a temperature or show signs of illness, they may be sent home.
- We plan to resume with our activities and allow attendance without a limit.

### **Illness and Diagnostic Monitoring**

- District #74 will track and maintain ongoing monitoring for:
  - Individuals that have been diagnosed with COVID-19.
  - Students/staff that have COVID-19-like symptoms.
  - Students/staff that have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 and are in quarantine.
- Tracking ensures CDC and local health authority criteria for discontinuing home isolation or quarantine are met before a student or staff member returns to school.
- Tracking methods include checking in with the school administration/staff upon return to school to verify resolution of symptoms and that any other criteria for discontinuation of quarantine have been met.
- Tracking should take place prior to a return to the classroom.

- Employees and families are encouraged to report specific symptoms, COVID-19 diagnoses, and COVID-19 exposures when reporting absences.
- District staff can assist individuals seeking a current list of community testing sites.
- Flanagan-Cornell Unit #74 is prepared to offer assistance to local health departments when contact tracing is needed after a confirmed case of COVID-19 is identified. This may include activities such as identifying the individual's assigned areas and movement throughout the building.
- Confirmed cases of COVID-19 will be reported to the local health department by school officials as required by the Illinois Infectious Disease Reporting requirements issued by IDPH.
- District #74 will inform the school community of outbreaks per local and state health department guidelines while maintaining student and staff confidentiality rights.

## **If I am Sick:**

Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 or who are suspected of having a COVID-19 infection or symptoms should seek medical attention, self-isolate, and follow CDC and IDPH guidelines for discontinuation of isolation. The district will follow the current LCHD quarantine protocol.

## **Monitoring of Symptoms:**

You know your child best. It is expected that you will screen your child for symptoms and use common sense to determine whether the symptoms are normal for your child or possibly indicating a more serious illness. For example, if your child has seasonal allergies, you are best served to determine whether the symptoms are normal for your child or something more serious. If your child is sick, please keep them home.

## **Communicating or Staff or Students Test Positive:**

The district will be using the guidance from the IDPH and our local health department on the procedures if a staff or student tests positive for COVID-19. We will follow proper protocol and communicate with all necessary parties, while maintaining a respect for privacy and confidentiality. Click [here](#) to see the decision tree that the district will be using.

## **If I Become Ill at School**

If staff or students exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 at school:

- They will be separated from the rest of the population immediately.
- They will be sent home; students will need to be picked up within 30 minutes from being called. The district will provide a supervised quarantine space for students/staff who are experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms that are waiting to be picked up. Students will never be left alone and will be supervised at all times while maintaining necessary precautions within the quarantine space.
- Areas of contact will be disinfected.
- Anyone exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 MUST stay home and may return to school after being symptom-free for 72 hours, without the use of medication like fever-reducing drugs. Students should see a physician for evaluation.

## **Mental Health:**

Flanagan-Cornell Unit #74 understands the possible impact that COVID-19 has had on the mental health of faculty, staff, students, and their families. The district will provide access to counselors and social workers and these individuals will be readily available as much as possible for our students and families. The health and safety of our students remains the top priority.

## **Field Trips:**

Regular Field trips will resume.

## **Grading:**

FC #74 will return to traditional grading policies, as recommended by ISBE, and make modifications as necessary. As we return to traditional grading policies, District #74 will ensure that students have all the necessary tools, technology, and teacher support at school and at home to complete all assignments, take assessments, and complete projects in a timely manner.

## **Food Service/Recess:**

- Cafeteria will resume to full capacity.
- Regular breakfast/lunch schedule:
  - Social distancing and washing hands will be emphasized at all times.
- Recess will be held outside as much as possible, please dress accordingly:
- K-12 will eat breakfast in the cafeteria and staff will ensure proper social distancing and occupancy requirements are met.

## **Remote Learning:**

- Only those individuals who have been approved by the building principal will have remote learning as an option. These students will remain in remote learning until the end of the semester grading period, no exceptions! Additionally, remote learning may be delivered through an outside agent, not necessarily by FC 74 teachers. Parents should also be aware that a student learning remotely may be required to demonstrate proof of learning in order to be promoted to the next grade level.
  - Those individuals who have been approved for remote learning will not be allowed to participate in athletics, dances, field trips, or other forms of extracurricular activities.
- In the event we are ordered to close the building, in-person students will transition to remote instruction, delivered through our teaching staff, until we are able to resume safely. Consequently, if we are no longer experiencing a pandemic and restrictions have been removed, this plan will be adjusted accordingly.

## **Technology:**

- 1st -12th grade students will be provided with a Chromebook device, protective case, and charger specifically for school purposes and while attending Flanagan-Cornell Unit #74.
- In order for students to receive these devices, parents and students must sign the district's "Acceptable Use Form" and "Student/Parent District Technology and Equipment Agreement".
- Students may take these devices home with them or keep them in their 8th period/homeroom teacher's charging cart.
- For students that qualify, mobile internet hotspots are available.

If you have any questions about the above plan please contact either Principal Brian Yoder for Flanagan Elementary School, at [byoder@fc74.org](mailto:byoder@fc74.org) 815-792-2261, or Principal Ryan Hansen for Flanagan-Cornell High School, at [rhansen@fc74.org](mailto:rhansen@fc74.org) 815-796-2291.

Flanagan-Cornell Unit 74 Administration



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### **ARP-ESSER III Funds Use Plan**

The American Rescue Plan, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Grant (ARP ESSER III), authorized under the American Rescue Plan provided funding to support schools in the safe reopening and sustaining safe operations of schools while meeting the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of students resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Use of ESSER funds by the Flanagan-Cornell Unit #74 will be in accordance with allowable uses and will be in alignment with the statutory purpose of the program. Below is a consolidated list of allowable uses.

1. Summer Enrichment and After School Programs
2. Contractual Time with ROE Instructional Coaches
3. Instructional Software Licenses
4. Math Curriculum Materials
5. Increased Social Work Time
6. Building Improvements To Increase Classroom Space
7. Website/Communication Strategy Software and Messaging Signage.

This plan was developed by engaging in meaningful consultation with district stakeholders. ESSER III funds will help Flanagan-Cornell Unit #74 to identify, re-engage, and support students most likely to have experienced the impact of lost instructional time on student learning.

-FC #74 Administration