

# Somonauk CUSD 432

# Return to Learn Plan\*

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2020-21

\* All plans outlined within are effective as of August 20, 2020 and are subject to change upon further guidance from local, state, or federal agencies.

# TIMELINE

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*May 2020:* Weekly meetings with teacher leaders to reflect on remote learning

*May 2020:* Parent survey to gather feedback on remote learning

*May 2020:* Ordered additional Chromebooks to support remote learning

*June 2020:* Reviewed guidance from a variety of sources including:

State of Illinois, Governor Pritzker, Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), DeKalb County Health Department, DeKalb County Regional Office of Education (ROE)

# TIMELINE

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**June 15:** Walking tour of every classroom to determine capacity with social distancing guidelines

**June 29:** Board reviewed first draft of Return to Learn and gave feedback

**June 30:** Meet with teacher leaders to discuss Return to Learn

**July 1:** Parent survey on Return to Learn options

**July 6-7:** Listening sessions for parent feedback

**July 7:** Teacher PD for remote learning began

**July 8:** BOE approved *Return to Learn* concept with final plan released on July 15

# Highlight of more restrictive guidelines

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*June 30:* ISBE/IDPH announce ban of face shields

*August 12:* IDPH release guidance of staff/students with COVID symptoms which includes sending anyone with a symptom home for 10 days

*August 12:* All family members (siblings and/or parents) and anyone in “close contact” must be sent home as well.

*August 12:* IDPH recommends ban on the use of gaiter face coverings

# Highlight of more restrictive guidelines

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**August 13:** IDPH changes the ruling on what a close contact is . Anyone who was within 6 feet of a confirmed case of COVID-19 (with or without a face covering), for at least 15 minutes throughout the course of a day

**August 18:** IDPH changes guidance to say that any person, even those with pre-existing conditions such as allergies or migraines, should be evaluated each time they show symptoms to rule out Covid

Students with common “covid ailments”:

Frequent headaches 18, Asthma 31, Allergies 77

# COVID-19 Symptoms

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- Fever or chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea
  - New loss of taste or smell
    - Runny nose?

# Trickle effect of the guidance

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How quickly can one simple case spread:

- Family in the district (siblings, parents)
- Otherwise healthy person who may have been in close contact
- Most at-risk: Nurse and Custodian/Maintenance staff
- Return can take place at best in 48 hours at worst 14 days
- Cannot underestimate the impact of those with chronic conditions who could have repeated long absences

# No longer hypothetical

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*August 13*

Teacher 1: Fails the morning health screening because of minor congestion symptoms

- told to quarantine for 10 days
- also has the option to have a negative COVID test and have a doctor note stating that the symptoms were not COVID related

Teacher is tested and it comes back negative

# No longer hypothetical

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*August 17*

Teacher 2 Reports a headache mid-way through the day

- Principal and nurse consult and follow guidance sending teacher home
- Teacher has COVID test and is negative
- Returns to School on August 20

# No longer hypothetical

August 11

Several staff members attend funeral visitation wearing masks

August 17

Staff member is tested for COVID because another family member tested positive and has symptoms. Staff members who attended were told by Health Department to watch for symptoms.

August 18

Test comes back positive, Health Department tells staff to quarantine for 14 days from the potential exposure.

# No longer hypothetical

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*August 19*

- Teacher 3 fails health screening and goes to the doctor
- Non-certified staff 1 reports child with a positive COVID test and must quarantine for 14 days

Currently we have 12 staff members or approximately 10% of our staff

# Human Resources

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As our staff is impacted by illnesses or forced quarantines, the use of other employees or substitutes is increasingly difficult. Each time this happens our staff is spread thinner and taking on more responsibilities. This has an impact on student safety.

# Moving Forward

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Despite countless hours developing options that considered all students in attendance, hybrid options, and full remote we feel that we have exhausted all options.

After joint discussions with the teacher's union, the administration would like to propose a ***full remote option for all students which we now feel is the safest option for all students.***

# Proposed calendar changes

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Utilize August 20-26 as remote planning days as allowed in the school calendar

These dates were previously scheduled as such on August 31, November 2, February 8, March 8, and May 3.

This will allow teachers time to plan and for parents to choose from two remote options

# Remote learning options

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## *Option 1. Traditional delivery*

Teacher led and will be a combination of synchronous (live) and asynchronous (on demand) learning as well as small group interventions.

Direct teacher-student interactions will take place multiple times per week and may vary by school building

# Potential schedule for 6th grader

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8:15-9:00 Social Studies/Science

9:15- 10:00 PE

10:15-11:00 ELA

11:15-12:00 Math

12:00 Lunch

1:00 MW Band sectional w/ Lambert T Math small group TH Science experiment

# Remote learning options

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## *Option 2: Online self-paced program*

This option may be good for families who are unable to follow a traditional schedule due to daycare or work conflicts

Based on student participation and available resources we will assign coaches to manage students using this resource. This coach will check progress and provide support if needed

# Special Education in Remote Learning

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Teachers have been preparing for students who have chosen remote learning

These plans will now be done on a larger scale

Mr. Ulrich has been working with our special education and related services to develop plans that he will discuss further

# Return to School

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Our ultimate goal is for all students to return back to full attendance. In order to get to that, we will monitor all health department guidelines. Our first step would be to move to a hybrid model and eventually return back to full attendance. We will use traditional ends of grading periods (October 23, January 4, and March 12) as guideposts to determine if we are able to make that transition.

# School Lunch

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School lunch will be available to any Somonauk School District student that is interested.

- A sign up survey will be sent to guardians each week to sign up for lunches
- Options will be for one day or all five days of school week
- Lunches will be billed appropriately to student accounts based on sign up
- Lunches will be available for pick up each day at SHS

# Questions?

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