



**Illini Central CUSD 189
Full-Day Attendance Plan
2021-2022 School Year**

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Illini Central CUSD#189 2021-2022 Full-Day Attendance Plan Summary

This document provides the guidelines for Illini Central Community Unit School District #189 to maintain full-day attendance for the 2021-2022. It is the District's intention to have full-day, in-person instruction.

It is critical that any plan balances the health and wellness necessity of our community with the learning needs of our students. The State of Illinois has established specific requirements that the district must follow. Illini Central CUSD189 will work in cooperation with our local health departments to comply with these requirements.

This plan is subject to change based on guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education, the Illinois Department of Public Health, and the governor's office. The district reserves the right to increase the safety protocols as local data and conditions indicate.

Calendar and Schedule

Teachers will report to work on August 16, 2021. Teacher institute days will be held on August 16 and 17. Students will return to school on August 18.

Kindergarten-12th Grade

The first day of student attendance is August 18, 2021.

The school day will begin at 8:00 am and end at 3:00 pm.

Students will be allowed entry into the building beginning at 7:45 am.

Pre-Kindergarten/Early Childhood

The Pre-Kindergarten/Early Childhood (Pre-K/EC) program will resume its daily schedule. There will be morning and afternoon sessions that meet daily.

The morning session will run from 8:00 am-10:30.

The afternoon session will run from 12:30pm-3:00.

Protocols during the school day

Pre-K/EC students will be transported on the regular bus routes.

Students will be required to wear a facemask.

Pre-K students will be assigned to a single classroom. Every effort will be made to maintain small, distinct groups of students to limit interactions.

Students will go outside for activities. All efforts will be made to maintain proper social distancing.

Pre-K students will be served a snack daily.

Instruction

In-person instruction is vital to the success of our students. Every effort will be made to maintain this approach. The district will use Google Classroom to share information with students and families.

The district grading scale will return to the traditional scale.

Music-Related Courses

Music related education will follow the most current IDPH/ISBE guidelines for student and staff safety measures.

Physical Education Courses

Physical education courses will follow the most current IDPH/ISBE guidelines. Classes will be using outdoor spaces when possible when it is not raining and above 40 degrees. High School students will dress for physical education. Students will not need to wear face coverings when outside and social distancing is maintained.

Driver's Education Behind-the-Wheel

In order to provide behind-the-wheel training to students in driver's education in

compliance with all Secretary of State and IDPH safety requirements, the following procedures must be followed:

- Require only two students and one instructor per vehicle
- Require face coverings
- Prohibit eating and drink in the vehicle

Special Education

Illini Central understands the impact COVID-19 has had on our most vulnerable student population.

Illini Central must adhere to timelines for annual IEP meetings and required evaluations. There continues to be limited flexibility from complying with federal and state laws. All Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 timelines remain in effect. IEP teams should meet to determine whether any amendments to students' IEPs are necessary to address students' current levels of performance.

Parents of students who need accommodations, modifications, or assistance related to COVID-19 safety protocols, disabilities, underlying medical conditions, or weakened immune systems should contact their student's case manager to discuss his/her need(s).

Students that are medically unable to attend for an extended period of time will need to follow the procedures for home/hospital services pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/14-13.0.

Remote Learning Option

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has resolved that remote instruction must be provided to students who meet both of the following criteria:

- ineligible for a COVID-19 vaccine; and
- quarantining under current guidance from IDPH or the appropriate local public health department.

For those individuals who may meet these criteria, the district will require written verification from the health department.

For those students who qualify for remote learning for an extended period of time, curriculum, instruction, and assessment will be provided by a third party. The district will provide the program at no charge to the student.

Students who are absent due to medical reasons will be able to stay connected to their classes in different ways, depending on the duration of the absence. Teachers will work with students to provide the best possible accommodations based on the individual details related to the absence. All of these accommodations do not apply to voluntary absences.

- Short term absences (less than 3-days). Teachers will share work expectations in the classroom management plan.
- Longer absences (Up to 2-weeks). In addition to accessing work through Google Classroom, students will also be able to utilize temporary remote learning with their teacher(s).

Please allow teachers a school day to post work for those students who are in extended absence.

Health and Safety

The health and well-being of our students, staff, and community is a priority for IC189. The following plans have been developed using guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Preventing the spread of COVID begins at home. Parents are encouraged to be overly cautious when considering whether or not to send a child to school. Before sending students to school each day, parents need to make sure that their children are:

- Fever-free
- Not exhibiting any symptoms of COVID
- Not waiting on the results from a COVID test

Basic Guidelines

All individuals who are inside the school buildings (students, staff, and visitors) will be required to properly wear a nose and mouth covering in all areas of the building, at all times, unless they are younger than 2 years of age; have trouble breathing; or are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance. This applies to all persons regardless of vaccination status.

Masks are required for:

- School Transportation
- Inside the School Buildings (this applies to all activities)

Masks are not required for:

- Outdoor activities

Masks should fully cover the mouth and nose, and that the covering fits snugly against the sides of the face with no gaps.

We ask that each family provide a clean face mask daily for their students to use. Staff are also required to provide their own clean facemasks. There will be a limited supply of face masks available on busses and in the buildings.

Frequent hand washing and hand sanitizing is key to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Staff members must clean hands as often as possible with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol may be used. Staff must avoid touching their mouth, eyes, or nose as much as possible. Staff and students must use hand sanitizer upon entering the classroom each time. Hand sanitizer will be provided by the District. Each building will place signage reminding everyone of the need for proper hand hygiene in the appropriate areas. If assisting a student requires close contact, hand washing, or sanitizing must be done before and after contact with students.

Visitors:

In an effort to maintain as safe an environment as possible, we will restrict visitors to campus. Visitors will only be allowed to enter the building when an appointment has been made or in the case of an emergency. Visitors will be allowed in the office areas only. Students will be made available to visitors as needed.

Health Services Building:

The nurses office is located in the Health Services Building (Modular Building #1.) This will allow the district adequate space to accommodate students or staff who demonstrate COVID-19 symptoms during the day and require quarantine. Students who become ill for any reason will be escorted to the building. Families who need to pick up a student because of illness will report directly to that building.

Points of entry

Students will be allowed to enter the building beginning at 7:45 am.

Students will be allowed to enter the building in one of four authorized doors. These include the cafeteria (Door J), the grade school entrance (Door V), and the high school (Door A & B). All students entering from a bus will enter the building through Door J (west side of building)

Students who are dropped off by car will do so in the east parking lot. We ask that parents who are dropping student off arrive no earlier than 7:40. We ask that students remain in the cars until the doors open at 7:45.

Grade school students who walk to campus can enter through the grade school entrance.

Social Distancing

The IDPH is recommending that a distance of at least 3 feet be maintained for social distancing within the classrooms. However, this distance can be reduced if it is a barrier to in person learning such as during lunches, in hallways, and during some activities.

School Bus:

No more than 50 students will be allowed to ride any school bus. All individuals riding or operating the bus must be masked according to IDPH guidelines.

Students will have limited access to lockers. High school and middle school students can access lockers prior to school, prior to advisory, before and after lunch, and after school. Students may bring a book bag to the classroom with all required materials.

Other Guidelines:

Restroom and hand washing breaks may be scheduled and coordinated throughout the day.

The playgrounds will be available for students to use during recess.

Increase in Mitigation Efforts:

In the event of a significant increase in COVID infections, the district reserves the right to implement additional mitigation efforts. These efforts may be implemented at various levels (grade level, building, or district-wide) in order to maintain a safe environment.

Illini Central CUSD189 will base its decision after reviewing school, community, county-wide data. For example, increases in the number of positive cases within the community or building, the positive test rate amongst school-aged children, or in the Community Vulnerability Index Score may trigger a change in mitigation strategies.

Examples of increased mitigation strategies include, but are not limited to:

- Requirement that all students and staff wear masks for some period of time
- Increase of social distancing limits
- Restriction of extracurricular activities
- Implementation of health screenings prior to entering the building.

The district also reserves the right to remove mitigation strategies subject to gubernatorial or public health department requirements. The district will utilize the same data as described above to make any determinations.

Operations and Maintenance

Food Services:

All food services staff will wear appropriate PPE including face masks and gloves while preparing and packaging food.

Breakfast:

Families will be surveyed to determine which students will receive a breakfast. This is an open-enrollment process. Students can pick up the next day's breakfast at the end of the day prior to leaving the building.

Lunch:

Lunch is provided free of charge to every IC student. Lunch will be eaten in the cafeteria or the stage area. Students will be seated at tables of four or at individual

tables. Seating charts will be determined. Students will be required to sit at the same table each day.

Maintenance:

All custodial/maintenance staff will be trained on the return to school guidelines, where applicable. These procedures will include extra sanitation efforts using certified EPA products in both low/high contact areas including:

- Desktops
- Door handles
- Countertops
- Handrails
- Light switches
- Drinking fountains (if left on)
- Restroom fixtures

Building custodians and cleaning personnel will conduct daily cleaning and disinfection. An EPA approved cleaner will be used for disinfection along with our standard cleaning protocols. All frequently touched surfaces (e.g., door handles/knobs, desktops/tabletops, countertops, light switches, pencil sharpeners, computer keyboards, hands-on learning items, phones, toys, cubbies/coat and backpack areas, sinks and faucets) will be cleaned on a regular basis. Restrooms, hallways, cafeterias, and common areas will be cleaned throughout the day. Soft surfaces such as carpets and rugs will be disinfected daily. Items such as cloth toys or other cloth material items that cannot be disinfected must not be used.

Building and Grounds may be adjusting personnel schedules to meet the return to school needs. Cleaning schedules will be created and implemented for all facilities and equipment.

Teachers will be required to sanitize their classroom one time during the day. Sanitizing and disinfecting materials will be provided in each classroom for daily use.

Transportation:

Drivers and monitors will be required to wear appropriate PPE including facemasks. These staff members will self-certify that they are symptom free prior to beginning work.

All riders will be required to wear facemasks at all times.

The transportation sanitation plan will include daily disinfection of our facilities and school bus fleet. Our facilities will be cleaned daily with emphasis on high touch

surfaces and restrooms. A physical distancing and PPE plan have been developed for our staff when they are at the bus garage. Schools buses will be disinfected daily at the end of routes and allowed to sit overnight for maximum disinfectant dwell time.

Public Health Guidance

Contract tracing will be used to identify people who have a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 and people who they came in contact with. A close contact is defined as an individual not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative period of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. According to the new CDC close contact definition, classroom students who were within 3 to 6 feet of the infected student are not treated as close contacts as long as both the infected student and exposed student were engaged in consistent and correct use of a well-fitting mask and other K-12 school prevention strategies.

Illness Protocol:

- With a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, students or staff will:
 - Be required to be absent from school buildings for 10 days after symptoms were confirmed;
 - Be 24-hours fever-free; or,
- Ill students with confirmed negative COVID-19 screening will still be subject to current policies and procedures for illness as identified
- A confirmed case will result in isolation of individuals who came into close contact with the person with the confirmed case
- An unvaccinated student or staff member who is deemed to be a close contact will need to quarantine for 10 calendar days after the close contact's last exposure to the positive case.
- Staff members who are deemed to be a close contact may quarantine for only seven days if:
 - No symptoms developed during daily monitoring AND the individual has a negative SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic test (PCR) that was collected within 48 hours of exposure day 7 (starting on day 6 or after).
- Test-to-Stay Strategy, as has been documented by CDC, if schools test close contacts, as defined above, on days one, three, five, and seven from date of exposure by a PCR or rapid antigen or molecular emergency use authorization (EUA)-approved test, close contacts are permitted to remain in the classroom as long as the results are negative.

Illini Central CUSD189 will provide COVID-19 testing to support in-person instruction.

BinaxNOW rapid antigen testing will be available for students and staff who present symptoms of COVID-19. BinaxNOW will be administered by the district's health services staff. The test produces a result in 15 minutes. Students and staff who test negative will be allowed to remain in school. This test is voluntary, and the district will obtain consent from the student's parent or guardian prior to the administration of the test.

The district will also provide the SHIELD saliva test. SHIELD is a weekly screening testing program that will be administered to students and staff who volunteer. The SHIELD test is designed to identify persons who may be contagious so that measures can be taken to prevent further transmission. Students and staff who participate in SHIELD testing may use a modified definition of close contact of 3 feet or less.

Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities must follow the IDPH requirements set forth for the school setting. Athletic events will follow the IDPH and IHSA guidelines.

Communication

The district will utilize a number of platforms to share information with families. Any changes to the plan as well as other news will be communicated through the district's website and social media outlets. In addition, we will communicate via email and/or phone through the district's alert software. Questions regarding this plan should be directed via email to the district's dedicated email account at illinicentral@illinicentral.org.

The district strongly encourages families to provide updated and accurate information including phone numbers, email addresses, and emergency contact information. This information can be updated through Skyward.