



School District of Hilbert

2021-2022 School Year COVID-19 Mitigation Protocols

INVEST, INTERACT, INSPIRE... EVERY CHILD, EVERY DAY!

August 20, 2021

GOALS OF THE PLAN

1. Mitigation of the spread of COVID-19.
2. Maintain continuity of learning for all of our students.
3. Minimize social disruption for our families and staff.
4. Minimize economic losses for our families and staff.
5. Monitor the physical, mental and social health of our students and staff.
6. Coordinate efforts with our local and regional partners.

The District Administrative Team will work closely with public health officials to address any increased transmission of the COVID-19 virus in our classrooms, schools, programs and facilities. If we see that the virus is being spread in these areas, we may need to change our protocol to reach the goals we have established above. If we need to adjust our mitigation strategies, the updated expectations will be communicated to all staff and families as soon as possible.

MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Vaccinations

1. We will continue to promote and encourage vaccinations for all eligible populations.
2. We strongly encourage our employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19.
3. The School District of Hilbert is working with the Calumet County Health Department to provide a vaccination clinic during our “Open House” on Thursday, August 26, 2021. The clinic will occur from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Middle/High School Library and is available for all students and family members that are eligible. More information and a sign-up survey will be released in the near future.

Masking

1. Masks/Face Coverings will continue to be recommended, but are not required at this time. The District strongly encourages any student or staff member who is not vaccinated against COVID-19 to wear a mask indoors, especially those who have underlying health conditions or are under the age of 12.
2. Due to a Federal Mandate in regards to public transportations, a mask or face

covering will be required on all school buses and in school vehicles at this time. The mandate will be up for review on September 13, 2021. We will follow up with more information at that time.

3. Masks will be available to all students and staff at our school. They can be obtained in the main office.

Daily Screening for Symptoms

1. It is expected that students and staff will complete symptom screening each day before they come to school.
2. Any student or staff who is ill should stay home from school for at least 24 hours fever-free, without medication, before returning to school.
3. Families are asked to be vigilant in checking the health status of their children each morning before they head off to school.

Physical Distancing

1. Like last year, our staff will continue to look for opportunities to promote physical distancing whenever possible to reduce the chances of spreading the COVID-19 virus (i.e. classes outside, use of plexi-glass partitions, minimize large group activities, use of larger spaces in school).
2. Staff will orient their classrooms and desks to maximize social distancing whenever possible or create smaller learning groups or pods.

Other Mitigation Strategies

1. Hand sanitizer and sanitizing stations will continue to be available in all classrooms and throughout our buildings. Hand hygiene is an important tool in stopping the spread of germs.
2. Only bottle fillers will be available and used throughout the school at this time. Please have your student bring a water bottle to school for their own personal use.
3. Ventilation schedules will continue to be increased on our building HVAC units in order to bring in more outside air. Because of this, it is often cooler in the building as we near winter so please plan accordingly.
4. Desks and classroom surfaces will receive additional disinfecting throughout the school day and at night after the students and staff have left.

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5. Assigned seating will be implemented in classrooms to assist with contact tracing if needed.
 6. Band and Choir classes will be held in larger areas or outside when possible.

Visitors/Volunteers in Our Schools

1. All visitors or volunteers will need prior approval by school administration before entering the building.
2. Visitors or volunteers in the school building should follow all District protocol and be sure to self-screen before coming into the building.
3. Masks are highly recommended for visitors or volunteers who are coming into the building, but are not required at this time.
4. Outside groups may use the school facilities when students are not in classes and must follow proper protocol and mitigation strategies.

District Transportation

1. All students and drivers will be required to wear masks/face coverings on school buses or in school vehicles (this is a federal requirement and will be reviewed on September 13, 2021).
2. Students must sit in their assigned seats at all times.
3. Students from the same household must sit together.
4. Bus seats and other high touch areas will be sanitized regularly during the day.

Positive COVID-19 Test

1. Employees and students who have tested positive for COVID-19 are to remain home until:
 - a. At least 10 days have passed since the onset of symptoms;
 - b. AND at least 24 hours fever free without the use of medication;
 - c. AND other symptoms have improved.
2. Families must call the main office at school to notify us of the positive case.
3. Employees must report positive cases to the District Administrator and provide documentation of the positive results.

Contact Tracing

1. Designated school staff will continue to work with the Calumet County Health Department to conduct contact tracing for positive cases of COVID-19 with students and staff.

2. Contact tracing will also be completed for household members of students and staff of a positive case.
3. Staff and families of students in the classroom where the positive case occurred will be notified and encouraged to watch for symptoms.

Quarantining

1. Unvaccinated staff or students with a household member who has tested positive will be required to quarantine.
2. Staff or students with a positive case in their house who are not vaccinated must use the 7-10 day quarantine guidance (from the last contact date) for return to school and school activities. 10 days is required, but can be reduced to 7 days with a negative COVID-19 test on Day 5 or later.
3. The quarantine protocol also applies to co-curricular activities.
4. Symptomatic non-household close contacts will be required to stay home until they are 24 hours fever free and testing is recommended.
5. Parents of asymptomatic non-household close contacts will be notified and asked to monitor symptoms, keep them home if they are sick.

Information Considered for Mitigation Protocols

These mitigation measures are based on our review of the following information:

1. Current community transmission rates.
2. Transmission rates during our summer school and co-curricular activities.
3. DHS/CDC/Local Public Health Guidance.
4. Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Guidance.
5. Availability of testing options for students and staff.
6. Local vaccination rates.

Student Services (Mental and Social Health)

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is fundamental to the success of our students, especially in tough times like we have experienced over the last 18 months. We will continue to incorporate SEL into every classroom through the following ways:

1. Provide Kindergarten through 8th grade students with access to social and emotional learning through Second Step.
2. Provide high school students with access to social and emotional learning through Character Strong.

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3. Provide SEL lessons and materials (Character Strong) for high school staff to make connections through Homeroom.
 4. Continue Sources of Strength.
 5. Provide opportunities and support for social and emotional learning for our staff and students.
 6. Continue the use of mental health screenings and support for our students from Catalpa Health along with the addition of Samaritan Counseling in the 2021-2022 school year.

Student Learning

The School District of Hilbert is very proud of the fact that we were able to offer in-person learning to our students throughout the 2020-2021 school year. With the cooperation of our students, staff and families, we were able to navigate our way through a difficult time due to COVID-19. This year will be no different. We will work together to provide our students with a safe learning environment and incredible learning opportunities.

For in-person learning, physical distancing will occur to the highest degree possible depending on the facilities that our students and staff are in. Teachers will be able to use small group learning activities where the situation arises.

Normal absence procedures will be followed. If a student is out for an extended period of time, their teacher will provide them with the necessary materials needed, which may include some online learning/coursework. If a large-scale quarantine takes place (whole class or school), there will be a temporary transition to all virtual learning.

The District will be implementing IXL and FastBridge online assessments and supports to assist in accelerating and supporting our students in our core areas of instruction of reading, math, science and social studies. More information will follow as the school year gets started.