

A large, abstract graphic composed of several overlapping, flowing teal-colored lines that form a circular, swirling shape behind the text.

# **MICHENRY D15**

*Today's Learners... Tomorrow's Leaders*



15

## McHenry Elementary School District 15

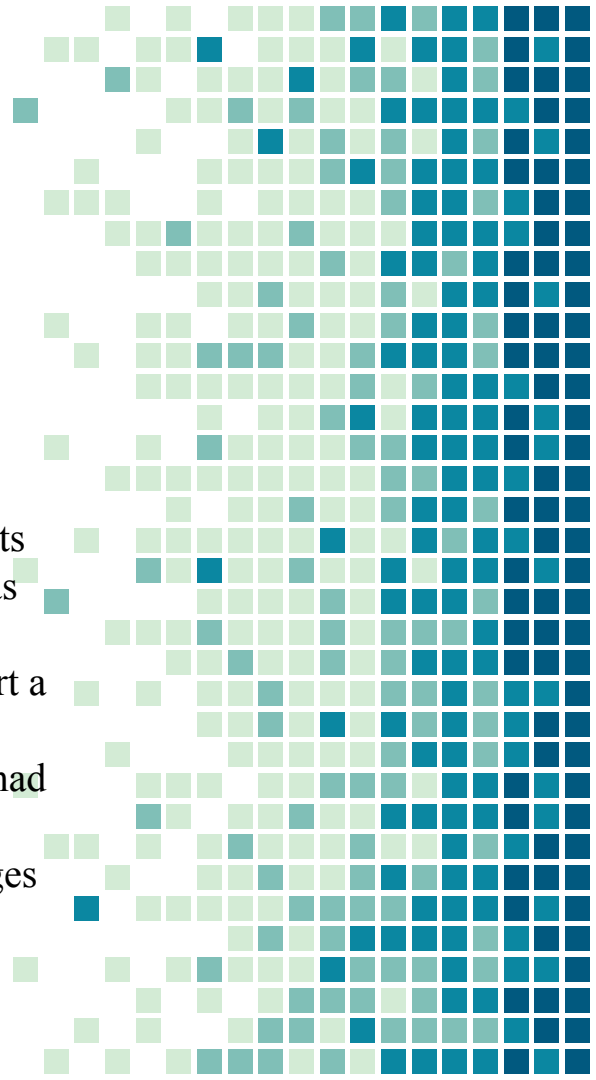
Return to In-Person Learning  
Planning Update for the  
2021-2022 School Year  
July 6, 2021

# Presentation Overview

- Introduce our guiding principles through this process
- Share most updated guidance from ISBE
- Share most recent health metrics in McHenry County
- Share our most recent plans relative to the guidance and health conditions including our rationale for decision-making
- Share planning efforts focused on social-emotional supports for staff and students
- Share planning efforts focused on academic supports for students
- Share challenges ahead and unanswered questions

## Guiding Principles:

1. Follow the regulations and spirit of guidance from ISBE and IDPH
2. Prioritize the health and safety of all students and staff
3. Maintain an emphasis on prioritizing in-person learning for all students
4. Develop return to learn plans that recognize the impact COVID-19 has had on staff, students, and families
5. Focus on social-emotional and mental health supports that will support a successful transition back to in-person learning
6. Focus on academic supports that mitigate the impact COVID-19 has had on students
7. Be able to develop contingency plans that allow for last-minute changes from ISBE, the State, IDPH



## Recent Guidance from ISBE

On May 19, 2021, the Illinois State Board of Education unanimously adopted a Resolution Supporting In-Person Learning that supports the Illinois State Superintendent of Education Dr. Carmen I. Ayala in making the following declaration after the conclusion of the current academic school year, subject to favorable public health conditions at that time:

Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, all schools **must** resume fully in-person learning for all student attendance days, provided that, pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-30 and 105 ILCS 5/34-18.66, remote instruction be made available for students who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine **and** are under a quarantine order by a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health.

# Current Health Metrics and Conditions

MCDH School Metrics				
Metric	Current Status	High Points	Currently Posted 6/29/21	Meeting Threshold
Incidence Rate	<7 Cases Per 100,000 per day	103 11/18/20	1	YES
Test Positivity	<5%	21.7% 11/12/20	0.9%	YES
COVID-19-Like Illness Hospital Admissions	Stable/ Decreasing	19 11/12/20	1	YES
Weekly Count of New Cases Increase	Stable/ Decreasing	2,007 11/8/20	26	YES

The logo for District 15, featuring the number 15 in white on a black oval background, surrounded by teal and blue swirling lines.

# Planning for the 2021-2022 School Year

- At this time, data and guidance supports that District 15 return to a full, five days a week, in-person learning model for all students.
- District 15 will provide remote learning in limited circumstances for students who meet both criteria outlined in the resolution (i.e. not eligible for a vaccination AND is in quarantine) but the expectation is to not provide optional remote learning outside of those scenarios.
- ISBE is predicting the CDC / IDPH will release its updated guidance for schools in the next couple of weeks. They are recommending that schools plan for both looser CDC guidance and the potential that current mitigations will remain in place.



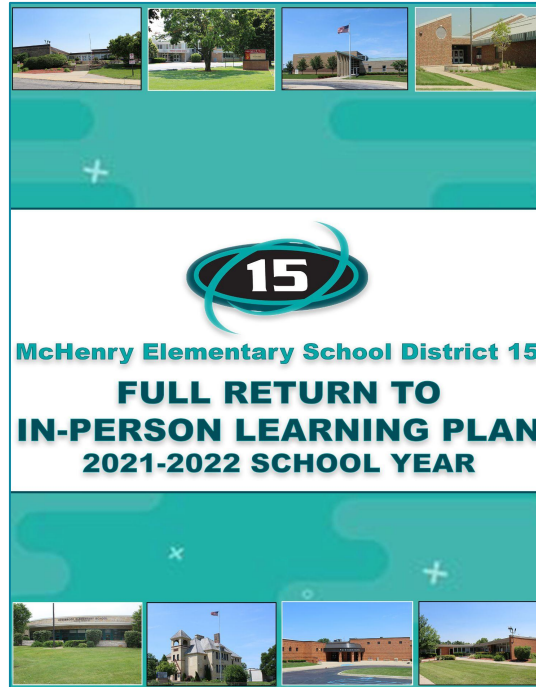
# Rationale for Full In-Person Return

- Meets the regulations and spirit of most recent guidance from ISBE
- Illinois is now in Phase 5 which recommends the implementation of full, in-person learning for all students
- Health conditions continue to improve in Illinois and McHenry County (we meet all four metrics that we have monitored since last year)
- COVID testing options are more readily available
- Vaccine availability exists for all staff and students ages 12 and above
- Community preference





# What Will School Look Like in 2021-2022?



## Current Guidance/Rules from ISBE

- Universal mask wearing by vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals in schools.
  - Masks are not required outside.
- Social distancing of 3 - 6 feet must be observed to the extent possible
- Contact tracing, periods of isolation, and quarantine must be performed in collaboration with the local health department for unvaccinated individuals
- Symptom self-certification is required of students, staff, and visitors
- Continued schoolwide cleaning and disinfection
- Frequent and proper hand hygiene

# Social-Emotional Supports Upon Return

- Instructional Coaches are collaborating with administration
  - Prioritize Social Emotional Learning as we start the 2021-2022 school year
    - Morning connections
    - Monitoring of students social emotional well-being via check-ins throughout day
    - Check-ins with families
  - Professional development opportunities for Social Emotional Learning
  - Social Emotional Learning opportunities for students
    - Second Step Curriculum K-8
    - Competency areas (CASEL) / IL State Standards
      - Self Awareness
      - Self Management
      - Social Awareness
      - Relationship Skills
      - Responsible Decision Making
  - Trauma informed practices for students and families
    - Challenges faced given the pandemic
    - Difficult experiences
  - Climate and Culture of School Communities
    - Educational impact
    - Opportunities to celebrate

# Academic Supports Upon Return

- Summer Learning Opportunities
  - Online Learning Platform
  - Digital Programming for Math and Literacy
  - Tutoring Services
  - Summer Bridge / Jump Start
- Early Academic Screening (STAR 360, BAS, MSDA, KIDS)
- Academic and Behavioral Supports and Services
- Before / After School Opportunities for Targeted Assistance / Tutoring
- 1:1 Technology Take Home Program and Digital Content Access
- Internet Partnership with Comcast to Close the Digital Divide
- Stronger Robust Network / Infrastructure for Students and Staff



**4,474 Books Accessed**



**27,838 Minutes Spent Reading**



**13,172 Math Sessions**

# Remaining Decisions/Challenges

- Determining the experience students will have during quarantine
- Social distancing rules and guidelines
- Bus capacity limits
- Lunch and meal service
- Quarantine rules and restrictions
- Course(s) of action if last-minute changes come from ISBE/IDPH
- Course(s) of action if health conditions quickly and radically change or pandemic resurfaces
- The implementation or offering of opt-in testing protocols for students to allow for relaxed quarantine guidelines

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