

A large, abstract graphic composed of several overlapping, flowing teal-colored lines that form a roughly oval shape, framing the text. The lines have a slight gradient and a soft shadow effect, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

MICHENRY D15

Today's Learners... Tomorrow's Leaders



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McHenry Elementary School District 15

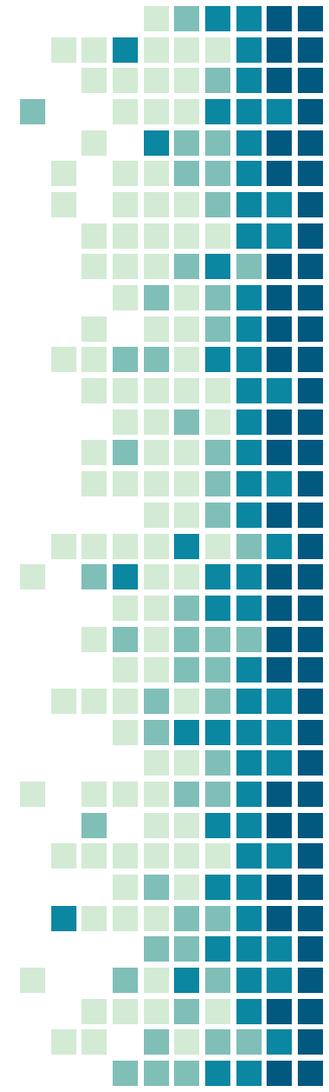
Return to In-Person Learning
Planning Update for the
2021-2022 School Year
(Landmark)
July 14, 2021



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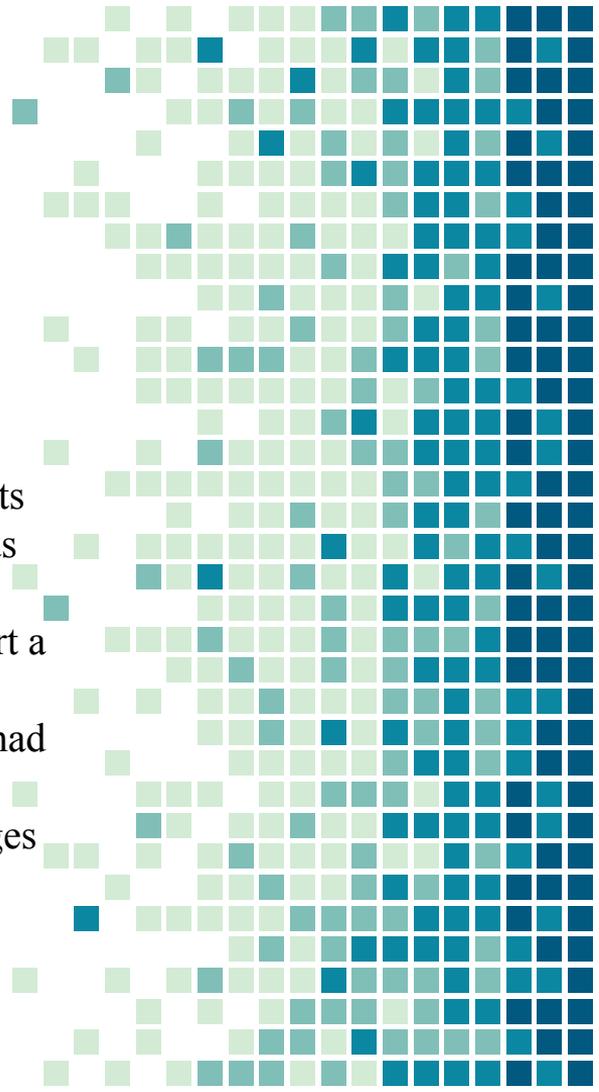
Presentation Overview

- Review of D15's Guiding Principles
- Updated CDC Guidance
- Updated IDPH Guidance
- Updated ISBE Declaration
- Clarifying Mask Guidance
- Planning for the 2021-2022 School Year



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



Updated CDC Guidance

- Students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority.
- Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Promoting vaccination can help schools safely return to in-person learning as well as extracurricular activities and sports.
- Masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated. Consistent and correct mask use by people who are not fully vaccinated is especially important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- There was a recommendation that schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing by people who are not fully vaccinated, to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully reopen while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as indoor masking.
- Screening testing, ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection are also important layers of prevention to keep schools safe.
- Students, teachers, and staff should stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
- Many schools serve children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, this guidance emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies (e.g., using multiple prevention strategies together consistently) to protect people who are not fully vaccinated, including students, teachers, staff, and other members of their households.
- COVID-19 prevention strategies remain critical to protect people, including students, teachers, and staff, who are not fully vaccinated, especially in areas of moderate-to-high community transmission levels.
- Localities should monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies (e.g., physical distancing, screening testing).





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Updated IDPH Guidance

Shortly following the release of guidance from the CDC, the IDPH announced their intention to fully adopt the measures stated by the CDC and reaffirmed specifically the following points:

- Masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated.
- CDC recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing by people who are not fully vaccinated, to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully reopen while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as indoor masking.
- Screening testing, ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection are also important layers of prevention to keep schools safe.
- Many schools serve children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, this guidance emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies (masking, distancing, testing) to protect people who are not fully vaccinated.



Updated Guidance from ISBE

On July 9, 2021, Illinois State Superintendent of Education, Dr. Carmen I. Ayala, made the following Declaration:

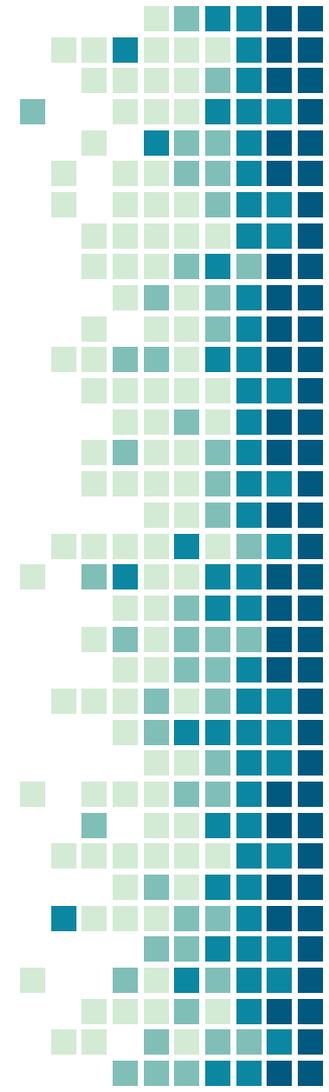
"Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, all schools must resume fully in-person learning for all student attendance days, provided that, pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/10-30](#) and [105 ILCS 5/34-18.66](#), remote instruction be made available for students who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine or who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine, only while they are under quarantine consistent with guidance or requirements from a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health."

Clarifying Mask Guidance

The CDC guidance that Illinois has fully adopted for all K-12 public and nonpublic schools states: "Masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated. Consistent and correct mask use by people who are not fully vaccinated is especially important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

The CDC continues to recommend masking and physical distancing as key prevention strategies. However, if school administrators decide to remove any of the prevention strategies for their school based on local conditions, they should remove them one at a time and monitor closely (with adequate testing through the school and/or community) for any increases in COVID-19 cases.

Schools should work with local public health officials to determine the prevention strategies needed in their area by monitoring levels of community transmission (i.e., low, moderate, substantial, or high) and local vaccine coverage, and use of screening testing to detect cases in K-12 schools ... A school in a community with substantial or high transmission, with a low teacher, staff, or student vaccination rate, and without a screening testing program should continue to require masks for people who are not fully vaccinated.



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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 Dr. Ayala's Declaration (i.e. not received or not eligible for a vaccination AND is in quarantine) but the expectation is to *not* provide optional remote learning outside of those scenarios.
- District 15 will resume many things that we stopped doing last year, but implement various layered prevention strategies in our continued attempt to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in our return to learn plans.



Layered Prevention Strategies in 2021-2022

- Ventilation improvement efforts
- Hand and respiratory hygiene and etiquette
- Increased cleaning and disinfection
- Social distancing of 3 to 6 feet to the greatest extent possible
- Promotion of vaccinations for eligible populations
- Encouraging sick individuals to stay home
- COVID screening testing
- Contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation
- Maintaining cohort grouping to the extent possible within and between classes
- Recommend mask usage when appropriate and require it when it is mandated

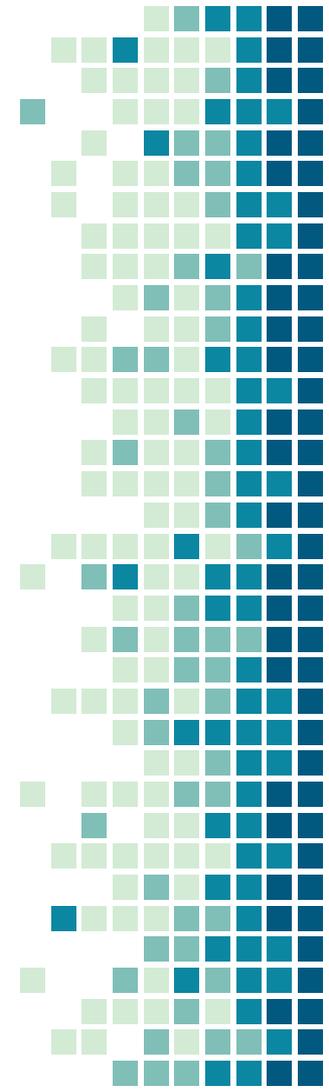


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District 15 Mask Guidelines

- In school buildings, masks are no longer required for fully vaccinated students and staff, but are still recommended (not required) for anyone who is not fully vaccinated.
- Masks do not need to be worn outdoors by anyone; however, in areas of high transmission or in crowded outdoor settings, it is recommended (not required) that unvaccinated people wear masks.
- Masks are required for all students and staff on school buses, regardless of vaccination status.

These guidelines are subject to change based upon changes in applicable factors including an increase in COVID-19 rates or revised public health guidance.

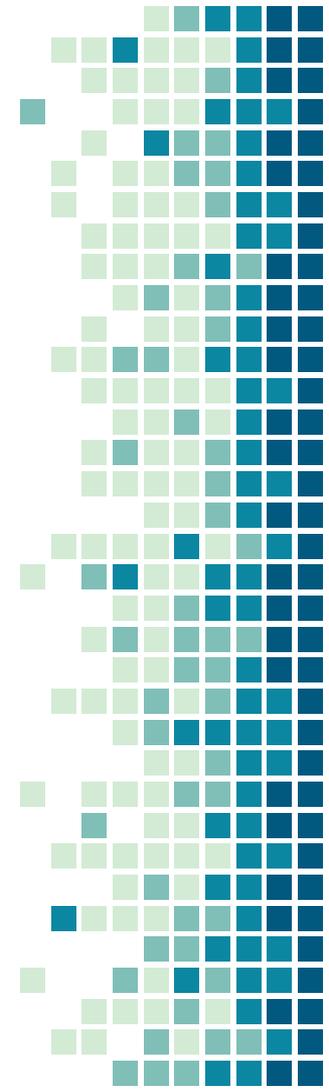


The logo for District 15 features the number '15' in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered within a dark teal oval. Two teal, curved lines swirl around the oval, creating a dynamic, circular motion effect.

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Summary

- Starting with Landmark School, District 15 will prioritize in-person learning for all students and plan for a full-return for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Bus capacity limits will return to normal and no longer be capped at a maximum of 50 individuals.
- Classes will return to pre-COVID capacities with layered prevention strategies.
- Cafeteria and food service will operate utilizing mitigation guidance to the greatest extent possible.
- Students actively in quarantine will receive remote learning opportunities.
- District 15 recommends the usage of masks for unvaccinated individuals in school buildings.
- District 15, per CDC guidelines, requires all individuals regardless of their vaccination status to wear masks on school district transportation.
- We will continue to monitor on a daily basis local health metrics and conditions as well as updated guidance.

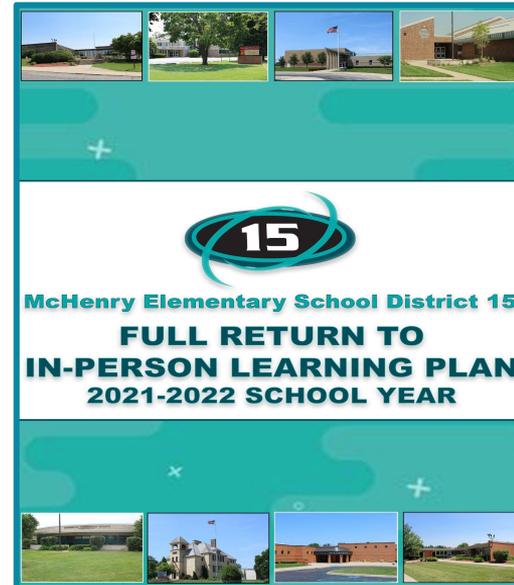




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Conclusion

- Avenues to seek clarifying information
 - Return to Learn Plan sent out to stakeholders and posted on website
 - Contact members of D15 at 779-244-1000, or at info@d15.org, or any specific member of our administrative team
 - Follow up at the end of this meeting



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