

Steger School District 194
Return to School Plan
October 15, 2020



Returning to School

- The safety of our Steger community- students, staff, and families, is our top priority.
- We will develop and implement a plan that can be flexible and responsive to the changing conditions of the pandemic and ultimately return to full in-person instruction.
- We will ensure safe and secure learning/work space conditions for all students and staff aligned with ISBE and IDPH recommendations. We will follow guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health to inform our decisions moving forward.



Week 7 of Full Remote Learning

- Full Remote Learning was the choice voted on at the July Board Meeting for Trimester 1.
- With Trimester 1 coming to an end, the district is evaluating the current reality and the ISBE and IDPH Guidelines.
- The IDPH Guidelines have changed (September 2020) to allow for students/staff/visitors to consider pre-existing symptoms and allergies before reporting a COVID-19 symptom. Prior to the change, alternative diagnosis from a healthcare provider was needed to exclude pre-existing conditions/allergies as COVID-19 symptoms to be reported.
- COVID conditions in the community must be favorable and local metrics must be low.
- As of October 11th- Will County 6.4%, Cook County 5.9%, both below the 8% threshold.
- Steger has 216 confirmed cases 2.3%
- Neighboring school districts are returning to some in-person learning.



RESTORE ILLINOIS PLAN

Phase 1 Rapid Spread	Phase 2 Flattening	Phase 3 Recovery	Phase 4 Revitalization Began June 26	Phase 5 Fully Restored
Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Combination In Person /On-Line	In Person Instruction



IDPH Guidelines for Phase 4:

- Require use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including face coverings;
- Prohibit more than 50 individuals from gathering in one space;
- Require social distancing be observed, as much as possible;
- Require that schools conduct symptom screenings and temperature checks or require that individuals self-certify that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings; and
- Require an increase in schoolwide cleaning and disinfection.



Trimester 2- November 16- February 26

- October 5-9 Parent Survey showed 50% would send their student for in-person learning. (1400)
- **Plan A, B, and/or C Learning Options.**
- Plan A or B will include Transition Days the Week of November 16.
- The students that choose in-person learning will attend one day this week with fewer students. During these days, students will be introduced to new procedures and routines. Examples:

November 16	November 17	November 18	November 19	November 20
GR PK/K, ² / ₃ , ⁵ / ₆	GR 1,4,7/8	Plan Begins		
Last Names A-H	Last Names I-Q	Last Names R-Z	Plan Begins	



Plans A and B- In-person options

- Plan recommendation should be based on the number of students choosing in-person instruction in order to adhere to Phase 4 Guidelines including social distancing.
- The school day for both plans are from 8am to 12pm in person, grab and go home lunch, with an additional 1 hour of asynchronous learning at home (synchronous if needed), meeting the 5 hours of daily instruction.
- The school day has been shortened in an attempt to keep our students and staff as safe as possible. Students will not be allowed to eat at school. Plans are a blend of in-person instruction and remote learning in order to minimize the spread of COVID 19.
- These plans also include students that choose remote learning.



PLAN A	PLAN B
5 days a week In-person instruction	2 days a week In-person Instruction
7:50 am- 12 pm CC 8:00 am- 12 pm SPC and SIC	7:50 am- 12 pm CC 8:00 am- 12 pm SPC and SIC
Grab and go lunch at home	Grab and go lunch at home
1 hour of (a)synchronous learning remotely	1 hour of (a)synchronous learning remotely
Deep cleaning and disinfecting every day during school hours and after student dismissal	Group A- Monday and Tuesday In-person Group A- Thursday and Friday remote Group A last name A-K Group B- Thursday and Friday In-person Group B- Monday and Tuesday remote Group B last name L-Z
	Wednesday- All Remote for deep cleaning and disinfecting between student groups
	In order to reduce the number of students in a classroom, students are assigned a schedule based on the first letter of their last name to receive in person instruction and remote instruction on select days of the week.

Plan A or B In-Person Practices

- Students attend school in-person 2 or 5 days per week, 7:50/8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. In addition, remote learning at home for one hour daily.
- Plans A and B include a combination of in-person and remote learning.
- 5 hours instruction daily (synchronous and asynchronous).
- Teachers schedule: 7:25 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.
- In-person class sizes will be limited to ensure social distancing, as much as possible, between students and staff.
- Classroom seating will be spaced and desks will face the same direction.
- Breakfast and lunch will be provided by the district daily.
- Students and staff will be required to wear face coverings.



Plan A or B In-Person Practices

- Parents/Families/Staff will review and sign a one time self-certification form guaranteeing their child is free of any COVID symptoms before sending the child to school each day.
- Students will remain in their classrooms and teachers will travel to classrooms to provide instruction as much as possible. Students will have their own supplies.
- Students will keep their supplies with them during the day. SPC/SIC students will have a container by their desks, CC students will bring their backpacks into the classrooms. (no lockers)
- Increased cleaning, disinfecting, and hand washing.
- Hand sanitizer readily available in all classrooms and throughout the school.
- Assigned paths of travel inside schools. One way in hallways.
- Water bottle filling fountains will be open. Water fountains will be closed.
- Staggered classroom and bus arrivals and dismissals.
- Alternate entryways for arrival and dismissal.



Continuity of Instruction

- It is important that through our instructional model options our students are able to see their teachers in person or have live remote lessons.
- These models include students working from home will view the same live lesson as students in class.
- It is the goal for students to remain in their current classrooms. However, there may be possible class changes to maintain social distancing.
- Students in-person and students at home will participate in the same curriculum so that students are exposed to the same content regardless of their learning location.
- Teachers will instruct all students in their class in person and remote simultaneously.
- Teachers will instruct from their building.



Technology

- K-1 Chrome Pads ready to distribute.
- 2-8 Chromebooks anticipated to students by November 15.
- K through Eighth Grade will utilize Google Classroom to provide daily instruction and assignments.



Increased Cleaning and Disinfecting

The district will increase the frequency of its cleaning and disinfecting to reduce the risk of exposure.

The daily cleaning and disinfecting routine will include the following:

- High touch areas (door handles, light switches, pencil sharpeners, keyboards, hands-on learning materials, sinks, faucets, toilets, etc.)
- Non-high touch areas will be cleaned and disinfected each night.
- An electrostatic sprayer with disinfecting solution will be used to disinfect all surfaces nightly.
- Disinfectant supplies will be distributed to each teacher for use as needed.



Meal Distribution

- To minimize the spread of COVID 19, students will not be allowed to eat at school. The school day has been shortened in an attempt to keep our students and staff as safe as possible. Students will be able to purchase a grab and go lunch each day at school.
- The lunch will be given to the students prior to leaving for the day. Parents will need to pre-order meals using the Meal Magic program. Normal meal rates will apply.
- 2 days a week in person may be distributed differently.



Transportation

- All bus riders will be assigned a seat on the bus.
- Busses will load from back to front, and unload from front to back.
- All riders must wear a face mask at all times.
- No more than fifty people will be assigned to a bus at one time.
- Buses will be cleaned in accordance with ISBE and IDPH guidance.



Special Education and EL

- Parents will choose either In-Person or Remote Learning.
- Self-Contained Special Education and EL students will be In-Person five days weekly.
 - 8:00-12:00-Monday-Friday-SPC and SIC
 - 7:50-12:00-Monday-Friday-Columbia
- Students will remain in class with limited movement in between classes.
- Face masks will be worn unless there is a medical exemption (for any student).
- Social distancing as much as possible to include services (OT, PT, SW,SLP).
- Parents can choose services in-person even if they have chosen Remote Learning.
- Testing will be completed In-Person adhering to all IDPH rules and regulation for safety.



COVID-19 Self Certification and Verification

- Parents/guardians of students attending SD194 schools are required to conduct health screenings of their students each day prior to sending them to school. The district will provide the parents with a checklist to assist them with the completion of this certification.
- The parent/guardian is required to complete and sign a one time form before their student enters the building on November 16 which will be included in the Parent Choice Form. If this form is not completed, the student will remain in remote learning for Trimester 2.
- By sending their child(ren) to school, parents/guardians acknowledge their student is not displaying any COVID-19 symptoms. Parents are required to keep child(ren) home when symptoms are present.
- SD194 staff members are required to complete the same daily self certification and submit this to the district prior to November 16. Staff may not report to school if they are displaying any COVID-19 symptoms.



COVID-19 INTERIM EXCLUSION GUIDANCE¹

Decision Tree for Symptomatic Individuals in Pre-K, K-12 Schools and Day Care Programs



Send home or deny entry (and provide remote instruction) if **ANY** of the following symptoms² are present: Fever (100.4°F or higher), new onset of moderate to severe headache, shortness of breath, new cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain from unknown cause, new congestion/runny nose, new loss of sense of taste or smell, nausea, fatigue from unknown cause, muscle or body aches.

Medical Evaluation and Testing are Strongly Recommended for ALL Persons with COVID-Like Symptoms.

Status	A. COVID-19 diagnostic test Positive (confirmed case) OR COVID-like symptoms without COVID-19 testing and exposed to confirmed case (probable case)	B. Symptomatic individual with a negative COVID-19 diagnostic test <i>(Negative COVID-19 diagnostic tests must be from a specimen collected up to 48 hours prior to symptom onset or after and is valid for only the date the specimen was collected.)</i>	C. Symptomatic individual with an alternative diagnosis without negative COVID-19 diagnostic test	D. Symptomatic individual without diagnostic testing or clinical evaluation <i>Individuals may move to Columns A, B, or C based on results of diagnostic testing and/or clinical evaluation.</i>	E. Asymptomatic individual who is a close contact ⁶ to a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case
Evaluated by Healthcare Provider	YES / NO	YES / NO	YES	NO	NA
Return to School Guidance	Stay home at least ten ³ calendar days from onset of symptoms AND for 24 hours with no fever (without fever-reducing medication) AND improvement of symptoms.	Stay home until symptoms have improved/resolved per return-to-school criteria for diagnosed condition ⁴ . Follow provider directions, recommended treatment & return to school guidance as per school policies and IDPH Communicable Diseases in Schools .	Stay home until symptoms have improved/resolved per return-to-school criteria for diagnosed condition ⁴ . Follow provider directions, recommended treatment & return to school guidance as per school policies and IDPH Communicable Diseases in Schools .	Stay home at least ten ³ calendar days from onset of symptoms AND for 24 hours with no fever (without fever-reducing medication) AND improvement of symptoms.	Stay home for 14 calendar days after last exposure to the COVID-19 case. <i>If COVID-19 illness develops, use the ten-day isolation period⁵ guidance for a COVID-19 case from the onset date. Testing is recommended.</i>
Quarantine for Close Contacts?	YES	NO	NO	Household Member (e.g., Siblings, Parent) ⁵	NA
Documentation Required to Return to School	Release from Isolation letter (if received from their LHD) provided by the parent/guardian or staff person, notification via phone, secure email or fax from the LHD to the school, OR other process implemented by your LHD	Negative COVID-19 test result OR healthcare provider's note indicating the negative test result	Healthcare provider's note with alternative diagnosis	After the ten-day exclusion, a note from parent/guardian documenting that the ill student and/or household contacts are afebrile without fever-reducing medication and symptoms have improved	Release from Quarantine letter (if received from their LHD) provided by the parent/guardian or staff member, LHD notification via phone, secure email or fax to the school OR other process implemented by your LHD

1 Based on available data and science, schools must make local decisions informed by local context in consultation with their local public health department. This chart should be used in conjunction with the [Public Health Interim Guidance for Pre-K-12 Schools and Day Care Programs for Addressing COVID-19](#).
 2 New onset of a symptom not attributed to allergies or a pre-existing condition.
 3 Severely immunocompromised or severely ill: may need to isolate for 20 days as per guidance from the individual's infectious disease physician.

4 If the individual has been identified by public health for quarantine or knows they are a close contact to a case, the 14-calendar-day quarantine must be completed.
 5 Consider quarantine for other close contacts if there was poor adherence to social distancing or use of face coverings.
 6 Contacts to close contacts of a case do not need to be excluded unless the close contact becomes a confirmed or probable case.
Rev. 9/10/2020 Interim Guidance, Subject to updates

Discussion: Plans A and B



PLAN C

All Remote- Continue the Remote Learning Plan

Remote Learning is an student option with Plan A and B

Medically fragile student or a medically fragile person at home

District devices for Trimester 2

Allows for Continuity of instruction- No back and forth between plans

Families who would like to maintain student learning but are not comfortable sending their student back to in person instruction.

Discussion: Plan C



Parent Choice For Trimester 2

- Families will receive a Trimester 2 Choice Form due by October 25.
- Families must indicate their choice; either in-person plan or Remote Learning.
- Families that choose in-person must complete a Self-Certification Form which is linked to the Choice Form.
- Families will also have to indicate if their student requires bussing.
- If parents/families do not complete the Choice Form and/or do not complete the Self-Certification Form, their student will default to Remote Learning.
- This is a commitment for Trimester 2.
- Parents/families may choose to change their placement for Trimester 3.



Next Steps

- Choose and approve a plan for Trimester 2 (Plan A or B- In-Person Learning, or Plan C- Full Remote Learning).
- Update Return To School Plan with chosen Plan.
- Inform all stakeholders of chosen Plan.
- Prepare for Trimester 2.
- Add Remote Learning Planning Days to November.
- Parent Choice Form for Trimester 2 due October 25.
- We will continue to monitor district and local metrics for COVID 19 conditions and adjust the plan as needed.

