



Wilmington School District 209u

Return to In-person Learning Plan

2021-2022



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Beginning in June of 2020, we began planning cooperatively with our Board of Education, local teachers union leadership and a District-wide e-Learning / Return to In-Person committee which was comprised of parents, teachers, building & district administrators, technology staff, and board of education representatives, working diligently to clearly understand this most current guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) in an effort to continue plan for a safe and successful return to in-person learning in the Wilmington School District for the 2020-2021 school year. Please be aware that our number one priority is always focused on the safety and well-being of our Wilmington students, families and staff.

The faculty, staff, administration and school board of the Wilmington School District, along with all of our students & parents were very blessed with a successful and safe school year throughout the pandemic. We were extremely grateful to be in-person with our students for the entire school year! Everyone is also excited for the upcoming return of students & staff from a well-deserved Summer Break, with classes scheduled to begin on the First Day of School on Wednesday, August 18th.

Please remember that all of our plans from the beginning of the pandemic in March of 2020 have been guided by the recommendations, guidelines and requirements provided to us by the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health; and if this guidance changes again, our plans may also need to be adjusted between now and the first day of school... or at any point throughout the upcoming school year. Although the list below is not all-encompassing, please be aware that each of these following cornerstones will be addressed and included in our final return to school plan in Wilmington.

- Students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority.
- The CDC continues to stress that vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Vaccination can help schools safely return to in-person learning as well as extracurricular activities and sports.
- As long as supported by local health data, mask usage will be required for ALL students & staff at the beginning of the school year.
- 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.
- 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.



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- 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).

Please remember that these recommendations, guidelines and requirements are state-driven by the ISBE and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), based upon information provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), not being created or developed here locally by the Wilmington School District.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding. We will continue planning and communicating as well as possible as we prepare for the return to school in mid-August.



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Introduction:

On July 9, 2021 the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health issued joint guidance titled “Return to In-person Learning 2021-2022 School Year”. The joint guidance along with the July 9, 2021 declaration by the State Superintendent of Education requires all Illinois school districts to resume in-person instruction for all students during the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. On July 28, 2021, the CDC/IDPH/ISBE updated joint guidance included recommendations, guidelines and requirements to help ensure that a return to in-person instruction would be safe for students and staff members. On August 4, 2021, Governor Pritzker implemented an Executive Order that supports safe in-person learning and requires that masks be worn indoors by all teachers, staff, students, and visitors in K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. Full guidance documents can be found at:

[Click here to review the CDC Guidance](#) (fully adopted by IDPH/ISBE)

[Click here to view the updated Will County Health Department Guidance](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#)

[Governor Pritzker Mask Mandate Executive Order Number 18](#)

The Wilmington School District is making plans to provide normal on-site, in-person instruction in each of its four buildings starting on Wednesday, August 18th, 2021.

Return to In-person Learning Recommendations

Throughout the entire pandemic, the ISBE / IDPH joint guidance has included specific mandates and recommendations as districts return to on-site, in-person instruction. The Wilmington School District will continue to implement these recommendations as applicable, based upon the most current guidance available from ISBE, IDPH, and CDC.

- All students will be provided a full day of in-person instruction.
- As long as supported by local health data, mask usage will be required for ALL students & staff at the beginning of the school year.
- Individuals will not be required to disclose their vaccination status to school district officials. Parents, students and staff may wish to voluntarily disclose their vaccination status to avoid a mandatory quarantine for close contact with a COVID-positive person.
- The CDC/IDPH requires masks for all students/staff on any school district transportation - including busses, driver's education vehicles, district-owned vans / cars / etc.
- Remote learning will only be offered to those students under a quarantine order by a local public health department or the IDPH. Remote learning methods will be determined by the individual teacher(s).
- Currently, students under age 12 are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine. To reduce opportunities for virus transmission, students in grades K-5 will remain in cohorts as



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much as possible. If at any point throughout the school year the District transitions away from a mask mandate for all students & staff (shifting to recommended only), at that point in time, students in K-5 cohorts may still be required to temporarily mask in the case of a COVID-positive case(s) within the cohort.

- School district administration will continuously monitor local health data and consult with local public health officials. This health data will be periodically reported to the Board of Education and school district parents/guardians.
- Should local health data require increased or decreased mitigations (i.e. mask mandate, social distancing, changes in lunch service, remote learning, etc.) the Board of Education will not hesitate to make such changes to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff.

MITIGATION MEASURES

All schools in the Wilmington School District will also continue to take any necessary steps to ensure the safety & well-being of students and staff with the implementation of other health and safety prevention strategies such as:

- All schools will continue with other health and safety prevention strategies such as social distancing of at least 3 feet
- encouraging parents/guardians to self-check their children daily for COVID, checking for potential symptoms prior to school and keep them home if they display any symptoms
- mandatory quarantines for COVID-positive students and staff
- mandatory quarantines for unvaccinated individuals in ‘close contact’ with a COVID-positive person – within 3 feet for 15 minutes or longer if having contact within a consistent mask usage environment and within 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer within an environment without consistent mask usage
- mandatory quarantines for unvaccinated individuals with any COVID symptom(s)
- encouraging and practicing proper hand and respiratory hygiene
- ensuring proper ventilation in all schools
- practicing proper cleaning and disinfection of learning spaces
- encouraging voluntary community-based or in-house COVID testing program for symptomatic students/staff
- CDC guidance recommends that age eligible students (currently age 12 and older) receive a COVID-19 vaccine

School district administration will continuously monitor local health data and consult with local public health officials. This health data will be periodically reported to the Board of Education and school district parents/guardians.

Should local health data require increased or decreased mitigations (i.e. mask mandate, social distancing, changes in lunch service, remote learning, etc.) the Board of Education will not hesitate to make such changes to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff.



Safety Procedures, Recommendations, and Mandates

Personal protective equipment (PPE) - Masks/Face Coverings: ALL Wilmington students and staff members will be required to wear a mask at the start of the 2021-2022 school year (Per the 8/4/21 State Executive Order). This mandate applies when students are in school buildings or using District transportation. Once this mask mandate is lifted, Wilmington School District 209U will revert to the terms of the approved 7/21/21 Board Resolution.

If the State Removes the Mask Mandate

The approved Wilmington School District resolution states that mask usage is recommended for unvaccinated individuals, but there will be no universal mask mandate for students/staff *as long as this option is supported by local health data*. However, the current COVID-19 transmission levels as identified by the CDC do not support optional masking. (Please see the Regional Metrics section of this plan on Page 9). Local health data will be routinely monitored to determine when the mask option can be made available. When local health data supports optional masking (choice), the one exception to this choice is when a student is using District transportation. Masks will always be required on school buses and other modes of district transportation (e.g. activity vans, driver's education cars, etc...) until guidance changes.

Students must have a mask to start the year. Students should also have a mask available during optional masking periods if needed for emergency evacuation, shelter in place, or transportation within District vehicles.

There is no masking recommendation for students/staff while outdoors.

Require that individuals self-certify that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings

It is essential that parents and guardians partner with the district in order to maintain a safe environment for all students. If any uncommon symptoms exist when checking each morning, the child should stay at home. In the case of new or uncommon symptoms, communication will occur between the parent/guardian and the school in order to determine how to proceed. All students should be checked at home each morning for a temperature before the start of each school day. If a temperature reading of 100.4 degrees or higher is recorded, the student should stay home instead of coming to school.

Possible COVID-19 symptoms include:

- Fever (100.4 degrees or higher),
- cough,
- chills,



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- muscle aches,
- sore throat,
- runny nose / congestion,
- new loss of taste or smell,
- nausea and/or vomiting,
- diarrhea,
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing,
- headache,
- fatigue.

The symptoms for COVID-19 can be the same symptoms related to many other medical ailments, ranging from something as simple as allergies to a common cold or flu. If a student has a known medical condition, it is important to have that information and documentation on file at the school (e.g. common allergies, a history of ear infections, occasional headaches, etc...).

The most recent guidance allows for students to remain at school if they display common symptoms (e.g. cough, headache, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, etc...), with a known and documented cause, as long as they have been fever free for 72 hours without medication given.

Remote Learning

ISBE guidance states that only students who are subject to quarantine and excluded from school for one of the following reasons are eligible for remote learning.

1. Testing COVID-positive (verification required)
2. Close contact with a COVID-positive individual
3. Displaying a COVID symptom(s)

Remote learning methods are at the discretion of the teacher(s) and may include video conferencing, online platforms, and/or sending assignments home.

Exclusion & Contact Tracing

Per CDC/IDPH guidelines, students who test COVID-positive, are symptomatic for COVID-19, or have been in close contact with someone who has tested COVID-positive will be excluded from school in accordance with the school district's exclusion chart.

Asymptomatic vaccinated individuals who have been in close contact with a COVID-positive individual will NOT be excluded, as long as proof of vaccination is on file at the school. Proof of vaccination status is not required to be shared with school officials, but absent such proof, the



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individual would be excluded in accordance with the IDPH /Will County Health Department exclusion chart.

‘Close Contacts’ are defined as someone being within 3 feet for 15 minutes or longer if having contact within a consistent mask usage environment and within 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer within an environment without consistent mask usage.

Vaccination Status

Individuals will not be required to disclose their vaccination status to school district officials. Parents, students and staff may wish to voluntarily disclose their vaccination status to avoid a mandatory exclusion for close contact with a COVID-positive person. Voluntary proof of vaccination must include presentation of a COVID vaccination card.

Masks

On August 4, 2021, Governor Pritzker implemented an Executive Order that supports safe in-person learning and requires that masks be worn indoors by all teachers, staff, students, and visitors in K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) announced on July 27, 2021 that it is fully adopting updated Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) masking recommendations to protect against COVID-19 and the Delta variant. CDC now recommends that everyone, including fully vaccinated individuals, wear a mask in public indoor setting in areas with substantial and high transmission. CDC is also recommending universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. Mandatory wearing of face masks, as well as all other mitigations strategies, will be re-evaluated throughout the school year on a regular basis, in consultation with the Will County Health Department, with decisions regarding required vs. voluntary mask wearing being made based upon local health conditions. Throughout the school year, if our region is identified by CDC as being at a SUBSTANTIAL or HIGH level of community transmission, we will consult with the county health department to help determine whether or not the entire school district should transition temporarily to required mask wearing for all students and staff.

School District Transportation

The IDPH / CDC mandates that all students/staff are properly masked while on any school district transportation. This masking requirement includes school busses, white activity busses, drivers education vehicles, and any other school district transportation.



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Require an increase in school wide cleaning and disinfection

The Wilmington School District will increase cleaning and disinfecting processes. All school facilities will be cleaned daily using a green-cleaning solution. All high frequency touch surfaces such as desktops, light switches, faucets, etc. will be disinfected and cleansed frequently, with an emphasis to focus on disinfecting spaces carefully in between different student groups who will be utilizing the same space.

Lunch tables and chairs will be cleaned and disinfected before, between, and after lunch periods.

Door handles and crash bars will be disinfected before school, a few times during the school day, and after school dismissal each day. The use of drinking fountains will be discouraged or unavailable for student use. Safer water coolers will be available and will be disinfected several times each day.

Offer screening for symptomatic students and staff

Covid screening testing identifies infected people, including those with or without symptoms (or before development of symptoms) who may be contagious, so that measures can be taken to prevent further transmission. The Wilmington School District will offer and recommend screening on-site and/or at a nearby testing site for symptomatic students and staff. Parents will be notified and must voluntarily agree to the screening before the test will be given.

Voluntary BinaxNOW testing for symptomatic students: Wilmington School District has partnered with the Will County Health Department, and we are now able to offer Covid-19 tests to symptomatic students. The test consists of a non-invasive 5 second nasal swab in each nostril. Tests are completed onsite by a certified school nurse and the results are typically available in just 15 minutes. It should be known that the tests are not the deep nasal swabs that are commonly used, and parent permission is obtained before any testing.

Symptomatic students who test positive will be sent home for a 10-day quarantine period. *The Will County Health Department recommends a Covid-19 symptomatic student that tests negative be sent to a doctor for a PCR test to rule out a false negative.* The rapid antigen tests are easy to use, give results in about 15 minutes, are less expensive, and can quickly identify people who are likely to be contagious. The "gold standard" is the PCR test, and the results typically require 3 days, and are not usually conducted in a school setting. Therefore, these tests are used to confirm inconsistent test results (symptomatic with a negative test). *To clarify, a symptomatic student that has a negative BiNax result, will still be required to have a doctor's note or a negative PCR test in order to avoid a mandatory quarantine.*



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Social distancing and additional safety measures

Pick-up/Drop-Off Procedures - All Buildings:

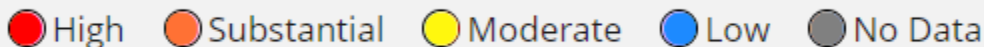
ALL schools will be limiting the number of outside visitors from entering the buildings. We ask that parents/guardians schedule appointments outside the school day whenever possible. If you need to pick up your child during the school day, please contact the school office upon arrival to the building. The office staff will need to make visual contact before releasing your student. There may be times when the office staff will ask you to come into the building. All visitors may be asked to wear a face mask when entering school buildings.

Potential for Increased or Decreased Mitigations

The Wilmington School District will consider increasing or decreasing safety mitigations if professional guidance changes or a change in local or regional COVID-19 data suggests the need.

Regional Metrics: The following link provides county-wide COVID-19 data published by the CDC. Due to the location of the Wilmington School District, we will routinely review data for Will, Kankakee, and Grundy Counties. Wilmington School District 209U will regularly consult and communicate with the Will County Health Department while routinely monitoring the regional community transmission status of the three counties mentioned above. Based upon conversations with the Will County Health Department, the three counties *should* be identified with a LOW or MODERATE level of community transmission in order to consider the optional mask language in the Board Resolution.

[CDC COVID Data Tracker](#)

 High Substantial Moderate Low No Data

Mitigation Strategies: The following mitigation strategies are possible based upon published county COVID-10 transmission levels (link provided above). All decisions will be made with the assistance of the Will County Health Department.

Possible Mitigation Strategies (Mostly Low to Moderate Transmission Levels - To be determined in consultation with local public health officials)

- Masks are strongly recommended for all unvaccinated individuals
- Maintain at least 3 feet of social distancing to the greatest extent possible
- Exclusion of students/staff for COVID-positive test or COVID symptoms
- Exclusion of unvaccinated students/staff for close contact with a COVID-positive individual



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- Parental self-certification for COVID symptoms at home
- Targeted masking and/or remote learning for COVID clusters, which could include classes, grade levels or buildings

Possible Mitigation Strategies (Mostly Substantial Transmission Levels - To be determined in consultation with local public health officials)

NOTE: This will be the starting point for the 2021-2022 school year due to the 8/4/21 Executive Order.

- Masks are required for ALL students/staff
- Maintain at least 3 feet of social distancing to the greatest extent possible
- Exclusion of students/staff for COVID-positive test or COVID symptoms
- Exclusion of unvaccinated students/staff for close contact with a COVID-positive individual
- Parental self-certification for COVID symptoms at home
- Certain events/activities may be postponed or cancelled

Possible Mitigation Strategies (Consistently High Transmission Levels - To be determined in consultation with local public health officials)

- Masks are required for ALL school district students/staff
- Exclusion of students/staff for COVID-positive test or COVID symptoms
- Exclusion of unvaccinated students/staff for close contact with a COVID-positive individual
- Parental self-certification for COVID symptoms at home
- Students 12 and under who are not vaccine eligible: Implement other possible mitigation strategies as recommended by the IDPH/ISBE
- Certain events/activities may be postponed or cancelled
- Targeted masking and/or remote learning for COVID clusters, which could include classes, grade levels or buildings

Bruning Elementary School:

- Student Arrival: Students will be allowed to enter the building at 8:00 AM. The bus riders will enter through the front doors, unloading one bus at a time. The car riders will enter through the back doors.
- There will be only one student assigned to each hook in the hallway for the student belongings
- A separate nurse's station will be available for students who are identified with a fever or potential COVID-19 symptoms
- Desks will be placed to maximize social distancing.



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- Dismissal: Car riders will be dismissed 10 minutes early at 2:20 PM. These students will wait in the gym using social distancing. Bus riders will be dismissed from classrooms by waves.
- Breakfast: Students will get their breakfast as they arrive at school, and take it to their classroom to eat.
- Lunch: Students will eat lunch in the lunchroom. Students will be spaced per IDPH recommendation. First Grade lunch will begin at 10:50am, and Kindergarten lunch will begin at 11:20 am.
- Recess: WE will have recess as normal.
- Restrooms: There will be a limited number of students in the restroom at a time to allow for proper social distancing and hand washing.
- Supplies/Manipulatives: Students will not be sharing school supplies or classroom manipulatives.
- Music: There will be no shared equipment.
- Water fountains will be covered with the exception if the bottle refill stations; students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles.
- Hand washing times will be available many times throughout the day, along with hand sanitizer available for use.
- Each student will be issued his/her own technology device (Chromebook) for use at school.

L.J. Stevens Intermediate School:

- Walkers and Car riders: Walkers and car riders should NOT arrive at school before 7:45 AM (unless they are eating breakfast). All walkers and car riders will enter through the game entrance. Students will go to their classroom immediately. Teachers will dismiss students 3-4 at a time to locker banks
- Lockers will be used at the beginning and end of each day only. Locker use will be limited by numbers (3-4 at a time) to provide social distancing
- Desks will be placed to maximize social distancing.
- A separate nurse's station will be available for students who are identified with a fever or potential COVID-19 symptoms
- An alternative nurse's station (off of the main office) will still be available for students who aren't feeling well but are not exhibiting COVID symptoms
- Recess: We will have recess as normal!
- Arrival to school: Students will be released into the building, three to four buses at a time. All bus riders will enter through the game entrance. Students will go to their classrooms immediately. Teachers will dismiss students 3-4 at a time to locker banks.
- Dismissal: Walkers and car riders will be dismissed 5 minutes early. Students will wait for parents in multiple locations social distancing along the sidewalk.



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- Bus riders will be dismissed one bus wave at a time.
- Signage will be posted at entrances and around school - IDPH/ISBE recommended signs.
- Breakfast: We will still have breakfast served in the cafeteria daily. Students will be spaced per IDPH recommendation.
- Lunch: Lunch will be eaten in the cafeteria. Students will be spaced per IDPH recommendation.
- Restrooms: There will be a limited number of students in the restroom at a time to allow for proper social distancing and handwashing.
- Supplies/Manipulatives: Students will not be sharing school supplies or classroom manipulatives. Each student will have his/her own individual set that will travel with him/her, if necessary, to specials.
- PE: Students will bring personal water bottles with them to PE.
- Computer class: Staff and students will disinfect keyboards/mice between each class
- Music: There will be no shared equipment.
- Water fountains will be covered with the exception of bottle refill stations; students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles to be refilled and use the fountains appropriately.
- Hand washing times will be available many times throughout the day, along with hand sanitizer available for use.
- Each student will be issued his/her own technology device (Chromebook). Students will spend time learning Google Classroom, Think Central, and IXL for future use. "Bring Your Own Device" is on pause.

Wilmington Middle School:

- WMS Doors will open at 7:30 am for breakfast. Students that do not eat breakfast will be supervised in the gym. We encourage all car riders and walkers (if they do not eat breakfast) to arrive at school no earlier than 7:45 am.
- Hallway lockers will be used this year. Students will be allowed to go to their lockers at the beginning of the day, before and after lunch, and at the end of the day.
- Backpacks will remain in lockers and will not be carried during the school day.
- Students will rotate classes this year, and will not be assigned to a Cohort.
- All students will enter and exit the building through the WMS Event Entrance (Door F).
- Water fountains will be shut down, with the exception of bottle refill stations. Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles.
- Breakfast and lunch will be eaten in the cafeteria, and students will be spaced per IDPH recommendations.



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- Students will use the same chrome book throughout the entire school day. Chrome Books will be provided in their 1st hour class, and students will carry it throughout the day. Chrome Books will be returned to their 1st hour class before dismissal each day.
- Students will not share their personal supplies. However, equipment (PE, shop, art, science lab) can be used and then cleaned for the next class period.
- Desks will be spaced per IDPH recommendations and face one direction.
- A separate nurse's station will be available for students who are identified with a fever or potential COVID-19 symptoms.
- Restrooms: Limited number of students in the restroom at a time to allow for proper social distancing and handwashing.
- Teachers will be encouraged to offer outdoor class time to students in order for masks to be removed.
- Signage will be posted at entrances and around school- IDPH/ISBE recommended signs.
- We will be limiting the number of people in the WMS main office with NO outside visitors, guest speakers, unless called in advance.
- Physical Education Classes: Students are encouraged to dress in comfortable, active clothing for PE class. Locker rooms will not be utilized. PE Classes will be conducted outside as much as possible. Shared equipment will be sanitized after each class.
- Library - Students will use their own device and search for books of interest in the Follett Destiny system.
- Art/Industrial Arts/Science/Stem: Students may be paired in small lab groups to maintain social distancing. Demonstrations will be used when possible. Any shared lab equipment will be disinfected between classes.
- Band/Choir Classes: The band room will be used; however, both classes will be encouraged to move outside when possible.
- Student desks will be sanitized with disinfectant spray at the end of every class period.

Wilmington High School:

- WHS Doors will open at 7:25 am for breakfast. 1st hour class will begin at 7:55 am. Students should report to 1st hour class after entry/breakfast. Students should not congregate in the hallways nor cafetorium at any time. Academic Doors will not open until 7:40 am.
- Signage will be posted at entrances and around school – IDPH/ISBE recommended signs.
- We will be limiting the number of people in the WHS Main Office with NO outside visitors unless called in advance.



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- Lockers (hallway) will be utilized. Backpacks will not be allowed from class to class.
- Students may carry a water bottle.
- Water fountains will not be used except to refill a water bottle.
- Lunch: Lunch will be eaten in the cafeteria using 3 lunch periods. Students will be spaced per IDPH recommendation. 4 students per table.
- Restrooms: Limited number of students in the restroom at a time to allow for social distancing and handwashing.
- A separate nurse's station will be available for students who are identified with a fever or potential COVID-19 symptoms.
- Teachers will be encouraged to periodically offer outdoor time to students in order for masks to be removed while maintaining social distancing.
- Library: Computers/keyboards and tables will be cleaned and sanitized between classes. Students will be allowed to check-out library books.
- Computer Classes: Keyboards/mice will be wiped down and disinfected between each class.
- Physical Education Classes: Students are encouraged to dress in comfortable, active clothing for PE class. Physical Education Locker Rooms will not be utilized. PE Classes will be conducted outside as much as possible. Shared equipment will be sanitized after each class.
- Science / Stem / Drafting Labs: Students may be paired in small lab groups to maintain social distancing. Demonstrations will be used when possible. Any shared lab equipment will be disinfected between classes. Students will be required to wash hands and/or use hand sanitizer before and after each class.
- Band / Choir Classes: The band room will be used; however, both classes will be encouraged to move outside when possible.
- Student desks will be sanitized with disinfectant spray at the end of every class period.

Health and Wellness Details

School Exclusion and Return to School or Work After a COVID-19 Related Absence

Wilmington School District 209U will continue to adhere to the guidance provided by IDPH and the Will County Health Department for any required self-quarantine, as a result of a symptomatic individual, positive test result, or identified Close Contact (being within 3 feet for 15 minutes or longer if having contact within a consistent mask usage environment and within 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer within an environment without consistent mask usage).

<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/IDPH-COVID19-Exclusion-Decison-Tree.pdf>

All individuals identified for a required self-quarantine will be excluded from school and/or work for 10 days.



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Plans are being made for the Wilmington School District to make COVID screening testing available to symptomatic students and staff, with parental consent. Throughout this past school year, testing has been available through Morris Hospital (Morris, IL) and Riverside Medical Center (Kankakee, IL and Coal City Clinic), as long as it is ordered by a physician. Additional information is available through the Infection Control Department at each facility. The Will County Health Department also serves as a great resource for all COVID-related issues:

Will County Health Department - <https://willcountyhealth.org/> 815.727.8480

Morris Hospital: 815-942-2932

Riverside Medical Center: 815-933-1671

Plan to Address Students Who Become Ill at School

Staff members should contact the office before sending a student to the nurse's station. An available staff member will come to the classroom, assess the situation, and take the student to the nurse's station, or the secondary nursing station, in the building.

Internal Notification of Positive COVID-19 Case

If a student tests positive for COVID-19, the superintendent will be notified and all CDC/IDPH guidelines will be followed. The Will County Health Department will be contacted to gather guidance. Names of individuals (students, staff, family members) will remain confidential unless permission is given by an appropriate individual to release the information. Any area used by a symptomatic person will be closed to students and staff until proper cleaning and disinfecting occurs.

External Notification of Positive COVID-19 Case

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, all parents will be notified. Parents/guardians of a student in close contact with the positive student or staff member (within 3 feet for more than 15 minutes) will be notified and the student will be required to follow the guidance in the flowchart shared on the previous page. All disinfecting and safety guidelines will be followed.

Disclaimer & Conclusion

The contents of this Return to School Guidance are subject to change based on local COVID data and/or Federal, State, and/or local guidance and/or mandates. This plan is based upon the current information from the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health. It is subject to change at any time. The Wilmington School District will be offering in-person instruction to all students while following safety recommendations and implementing a multi-layered mitigation approach. All communications regarding new information or updates will come from the District's mass messaging system and posted on the district website.