

Clay City CUSD #10 Return to School Plan

Clay City CUSD #10 will follow IDPH/ISBE adopted CDC guidelines for schools (July 9, 2021). This document outlines how the district will comply with these guidelines and clarifies the daily routine under them. In regards to masks for the FY 22 school year, the district will strongly recommend, but not require, the use of masks, as outlined by the Illinois Department of Public Health. As per Illinois State Board of Education guidance the daily schedule for students will return to our regular schedule. Students can enter the building at 7:45 for breakfast. The school day will be 8:10 – 3:10. Remote learning will not be an option, unless required by the Illinois State Board of Education. Clay City CUSD #10 strategies in this plan may be added based upon local conditions, levels of community transmission (i.e. low, moderate, substantial, or high), local vaccine coverage, use of screening testing to detect cases in K-12 schools, and consultation with local public health officials to determine the prevention strategies needed. School officials will communicate any changes in plans to staff members, students, and parents through the district's regular modes of communication.

Steps to protect students and staff:

"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 communicate their strategies and any changes in plans to teachers, staff, and families, and directly to older students, using accessible materials and communication channels, in a language and at a literacy level that teachers, staff, students, and families understand." (ISBE.net)

Clay City CUSD #10 will work closely with the Clay County Health Department to remain up to date with recommended procedures and practices to maintain a safe environment for our students, faculty, and staff. This plan can be amended based upon current data and trends to meet the standards of protection recommended by the Clay County Health Department (CCHD). We will continue to collaborate and consult with CCHD officials on various logistics, quarantines, school health and safety protocols, screening testing, contact tracing, vaccine clinics, and emergency school closings. We will base our decisions upon analysis of our school data and county metrics at the current time. Maintaining preventative measures in the school setting will also be an important factor in our decision making.

Mask use is recommended for people who are not fully vaccinated, including students, staff, and staff. School staff are to model support for and encourage students to be supportive of people who choose to continue to wear a mask as a personal choice or because of a personal medical reason.

COVID killing ion generators will be installed that are equipped for the coordination and monitoring of the generators for each classroom in the district.

Respectful of peoples' varying levels of vaccine confidence, those who want to get vaccinated against COVID-19 can contact the Clay County Health Department to find out where they can get vaccinated in the local area.

Monitoring students and staff:

Any student, faculty, or staff should stay home when experiencing signs of infectious illness.

Healthcare providers should be consulted for care and testing. Clay County Health Department (CCHD) continues to provide testing.

Individuals that test positive must meet all the requirements of the quarantine and check in with the school nurse prior to returning to school.

Contact tracing and isolation will be done by the Health Department in cooperation with Clay City CUSD#10.

Community transmission, vaccine coverage, screening, testing and outbreak occurrences will be continuously monitored by CCHD and will guide decisions on layered prevention strategies.

Hygiene practices for students and staff:

Teach and reinforce washing hands, using hand sanitizer and covering coughs and sneezes among students and staff. (First week a daily practice)

Purchase adequate supplies and carefully monitor inventory to support healthy hygiene behaviors including soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, tissue, etc.

Cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting procedures:

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects within school and on school buses at least daily, including door handles, sink handles, and drinking fountains (students need to have their own water bottles).

Assessing Students' Skill Levels/Addressing Learning Loss

Assessment of students will be conducted at the beginning of the school year to inform teachers of current students' achievement and needs. (AIMSWeb benchmarking)

Targeted interventions and differentiated instruction will be used to help individual students reach their learning goals.

Prioritize a strong review and infusion of the critical standards and key skills that were not addressed or mastered from the previous year during the first several weeks of the school year

Classrooms

Distances between student desks/seating will be established to the maximum extent feasible and appropriate as recommended by ISBE guidance. .

Create one-way traffic patterns in hallways.

Lockers can be used, but for single child only.

Social Distancing for Younger Students/Early Childhood

Arrange furniture and play spaces to meet social distancing requirements when possible.

Utilize carpet squares, mats, trays or other visuals for spacing.

Center activities should be limited to three children.

Model social distancing and proper hygiene practices to the students.

Music Related Courses/Band

Social distancing should be observed in the classroom.

Instruments should not be shared at any time.

Physical Education

Locker rooms and dressing for PE will be reinstated. Students will follow social distance as appropriate.

Traffic Flow, Hallways, and Lockers

Hallways will follow a one way traffic pattern per side.

Hallways will have marked one way paths and 3 foot distance markers will be present in areas where students line up.

Drinking Fountains

Water bottle filling stations will be available for students. Students should bring their own water bottles.

Lunch/Cafeteria

Students will maintain social distance while in the cafeteria and in the lunch line.

Avoid the sharing of food and utensils.

All food preparation surfaces, tables, common surfaces, etc. will be sanitized before and after each use.

Processes for identifying and restricting non-essential visitors and volunteers:

Restrict nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities that involve other groups. (Cancel all visitors for the 1st quarter at least)

Hand sanitizer should be readily available for visitors to use upon entry.

Transportation / Buses

Masks are required to be worn on all public transportation by the driver and passengers under the current guidelines from CDC/IDPH/ ISBE. A driver does not need to wear a mask if they are the only person on the bus.

Buses will be cleaned and disinfected after each route. (Using the cleaning machines)

Driver Education behind the wheel time will follow this guidance, masks are required in the vehicle.

Extracurricular Activities, School/District Events

Extracurricular activities will resume following all IHSA, IESA, IDPH, and ISBE guidelines for participants and spectators.

Locker rooms will be used by students, athletes, and teams following the same guidelines.

Clay City CUSD#10 will follow all IDPH and ISBE guidelines when hosting events that allow community members to attend. Our goal is to provide a safe environment for all stakeholders who enter our doors in support of our students.