

Emergency Board Meeting
Friday, February 11, 2022 5:00 PM

Washington Community High School - Library

Agenda

1. Call to Order - President Jennifer Essig
2. Roll Call
3. Action Items
 - 3.1. Approve Revised Return to School Plan
 - 3.2. Approve Mitigation Level
4. Visitors and Correspondence
5. Adjournment

2021-22 Return to School Plan (Revised 2/11/22)

In-Person Learning

For the 2021-22 school year, Washington Community High School District #308 will return to in-person learning.

Remote Learning

The use of Remote Learning will be limited in accordance with ISBE's 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 /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."

Face Coverings

In the event that additional mitigation steps need to be implemented, face coverings may become mandatory for some or all students and staff. Read more about mitigation levels below. Face coverings must cover both the nose and mouth, and excludes the use of neck gaiters.

Buses: The Federal Government requires all students and bus drivers to wear a face covering while inside a bus.

Athletics: The Illinois High School Association will determine regulations for face coverings during athletic events, and guidance may differ by activity and indoor or outdoor locations.

Quarantine & Contact Tracing

Positive or Symptomatic: Students who test positive or are symptomatic for COVID-19 must isolate per CDC/IDPH Guidelines.

Close Contact: Parents will be notified if their student is considered a close contact with a COVID-19 positive student or staff member at school.

- If the close contact is **not symptomatic and is vaccinated for COVID-19**, the close contact **will not need to quarantine**. Families should continue to monitor for any emerging COVID-19 symptoms.
- If the close contact is **not vaccinated for COVID-19**, the close contact **will be subject to quarantine**.

Remote Learning During Quarantine

Students who have to temporarily quarantine, may participate in their courses while at home through either live Google Meet or by viewing a recorded lesson provided by 5:00 p.m. on the day of the absence. It is the student's responsibility to contact their teacher to determine which method will be available. All direct instruction via Google Meet will only be provided during the student's scheduled class time.

COVID-19 Prevention

Preventing the spread of COVID begins at home. Parents are encouraged to be overly cautious when considering whether or not to send a student to school. Students should only attend if they are healthy, fever free, and not experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19. Remember, if a student or anyone in their household is waiting to receive a COVID-19 test results the student should not report to school until a negative result is confirmed.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Illinois Department of Public Health, and Illinois State Board of Education, wearing a face covering is proven to be an effective mitigation measure, and all unvaccinated students and staff are strongly advised to wear a face covering.

Students will be encouraged to follow hygiene procedures such as cleaning hands frequently and using respiratory etiquette.

Students will be required to complete an online self-screening form to assess the presence of any COVID-19 symptoms prior to attending school (same process as last year). It is imperative that students only attend school when healthy.

COVID-19 Reporting

Absences and positive COVID-19 cases should be reported to the school absence line at (309) 444-5525 for every instance. Reporting COVID-19 outside of school hours, weekends, and holiday breaks should be reported on the COVID-19 Reporting Google form located on the school website at www.wacohi.net > home page > 2021-22 Important Information.

Vaccination

The district will collect vaccination status on a voluntary basis. Proof of vaccination will be required for students/staff to avoid certain mitigation strategies, such as healthy quarantine. Parents/guardians who wish to have their student's vaccination status on record with the district may show their student's COVID-19 vaccination card to the school nurse at in-person registration or at any time during the year. The COVID-19 vaccination is not required to attend school, but parents who are interested in their child receiving the vaccination may visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to learn about opportunities in our community.

Return to Traditional Bell Schedule - The traditional bell schedule will be reinstated with the addition of a homeroom period. (Periods 0-7, Homeroom)

Starting the School Day - All students will report to their first-hour class upon arrival at school. There will not be any mass congregation in the multi-purpose room or other common spaces before the school day begins. Students should not arrive any earlier than 15 minutes prior to the start of their scheduled day.

Lockers - The use of lockers will resume.

Lunch - Students will resume eating in the multi-purpose room and will be physically distanced to the greatest extent possible. *78% of survey responses indicated they were comfortable with their student eating in the MPR with no face covering closer than 6 feet apart.*

Physical Education - Students will dress for PE.

Shared Materials - Shared materials may be reintroduced this year with increased sanitation measures.

Band and Choir - Music programs will resume regular programming for the 2021-22 school year. This will include competitions (as available), concerts, and programs. After-school programming or meetings related to music may continue to take place indoors and parents will be able to attend as it is after school hours.

Field Trips - Field trips that align with instructional outcomes and/or are an extension of the learning environment will be permitted during the 2021-22 school year.

Mitigation Procedures

The following mitigation procedures will be in place for the 2021-22 school year:

- **Self-certification symptom screening** - Completed through an online form prior to arriving at school. Students who are exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19 should remain home. Symptoms include fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, etc. Please reference the full list of symptoms provided by the CDC.
- **Physical distancing** - Students and faculty/staff will be physically distanced 3 feet or to the greatest extent possible. There may be times when students are closer together for less than 15 minutes such as passing periods, or shorter classroom activities.
- **Seating Charts** - Seating will be spaced as far apart as reasonably possible (3 feet can typically be attained), and seating charts will be used in classrooms and buses.
- **Hygiene** - Students will be encouraged to follow hygiene procedures such as cleaning hands frequently and using respiratory etiquette. Cover a cough or sneeze in the elbow or a tissue and clean hands immediately. Students will have access to hand sanitizer in classrooms and other common areas in the building.
- **Cleaning** - Increased cleaning schedule for frequently touched surfaces such as door knobs, stair rails, bathrooms, bottle fillers, etc.
- **Air circulation** - The facility has heating, ventilation, and air conditioning units that incorporate 15% outside air each time the system runs. Windows may also be opened throughout the building to provide additional air flow when necessary.

Mitigation Levels

The three mitigation levels outline how our day-to-day operations will function over the coming school year. Please note that changes in our mitigation levels will be dependent upon the vaccination rate in our school population, weekly analysis of positive COVID-19 cases within our school population and transmission status within the community of Washington or Tazewell county. **All decisions to move between mitigation levels will be made in conjunction with the Tazewell County Health Department (TCHD).**

Mitigation Level 1 - Minimal

Positive cases are at a minimal level or increasing at a rate considered minimal by the TCHD:

- Face coverings are optional but strongly recommended.
- 3 feet between students, or to the greatest extent possible.
- Quarantine & Contact Tracing

Positive or Symptomatic: Students who test positive or are symptomatic for COVID-19 must isolate per [CDC/IDPH Guidelines](#).

Close Contact: Parents will be notified if their student is considered a close contact with a COVID-19 positive student or staff member at school.

- If the close contact is **not symptomatic and is vaccinated for COVID-19**, the close contact **will not need to quarantine**. Families should continue to monitor for any emerging COVID-19 symptoms.
- If the close contact is **not vaccinated for COVID-19**, the close contact **will be subject to quarantine**.
- District will implement remote learning for specific classes or building-wide if needed.
- Self-certification to screen for symptoms.
- *Other mitigation measures within this level may be added if necessary and will be communicated prior to implementation.*

Mitigation Level 2 - Moderate

Positive cases are increasing for two consecutive weeks at a rate that is considered moderate by the TCHD:

- Face coverings are required for all students and staff at all times except for specific circumstances (for example: lunch, outdoor classes maintaining 6 feet physical distance, etc.)
- 3 feet between students, or to the greatest extent possible.
- Quarantine & Contact Tracing

Positive or Symptomatic: Students who test positive or are symptomatic for COVID-19 must isolate per [CDC/IDPH Guidelines](#).

Close Contact: Parents will be notified if their student is considered a close contact with a COVID-19 positive student or staff member at school.

- If the close contact is **not symptomatic and is vaccinated for COVID-19**, the close contact **will not need to quarantine**. Families should continue to monitor for any emerging COVID-19 symptoms.
- If the close contact is **not vaccinated for COVID-19**, the close contact **will be subject to quarantine**.
- District will implement remote learning for specific classes or building-wide if needed.
- Self-certification to screen for symptoms.
- Field trips, assemblies, and some programs may be canceled or postponed
- *Other mitigation measures within this level may be added if necessary and will be communicated prior to implementation.*

Mitigation Level 3 - Substantial

Positive cases increase for two weeks at a rate that is considered substantial by the TCHD:

- Face coverings are required for all students and staff at all times except for specific circumstances (for example: lunch, outdoor classes maintaining 6 feet physical distance, etc.)
- 3 feet between students in all circumstances.
- Quarantine & Contact Tracing

Positive or Symptomatic: Students who test positive or are symptomatic for COVID-19 must isolate per [CDC/IDPH Guidelines](#).

Close Contact: Parents will be notified if their student is considered a close contact with a COVID-19 positive student or staff member at school.

- If the close contact is **not symptomatic and is vaccinated for COVID-19**, the close contact **will not need to quarantine**. Families should continue to monitor for any emerging COVID-19 symptoms.
- If the close contact is **not vaccinated for COVID-19**, the close contact **will be subject to quarantine**.
- District will implement remote learning for classes or building-wide if needed.
- Self-certification to screen for symptoms and temperature screening at the door.
- Field trips, assemblies, and some programs will be canceled or postponed.
- Visitors to the school will be restricted unless authorized by the superintendent or principal.
- Attendance at extra-curricular events may be limited
- Events may be postponed or cancelled.
- Concessions at events may not be available or limited
- Performances at events may be limited or cancelled
- Off-season workouts may be limited or cancelled.
- *Other mitigation measures within this level may be added if necessary and will be communicated prior to implementation.*

Disclosure

The contents of this return to school guidance are subject to change based on Federal, local, or state guidance. Any changes will be communicated via email, posted to the district website, or via phone message if appropriate.

ACTION ITEMS

Approve Revised 2021-2022 Return to School Plan

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education approve the Revised 2021-2022 Return to School Plan as presented.

Suggested Motion:

Motion to approve the Revised 2021-2022 Return to School Plan as recommended.