



OREGON
CUSD220

2021-2022

Since Governor Pritzker's Executive Order mandating masks in school for all individuals on Wednesday, August 4th, **all** county school leaders and school board members have been working diligently in an attempt to adapt their previous plans, communicate unwelcome news to our communities, and to prepare for the upcoming school year. What has become clear, is that we are all struggling with the same reality and we wanted to share consistent information with everyone across the county. Therefore, we decided to collaborate and create a consistent message to share with all Ogle County communities.

In our plan you will find many details in which all districts will need to enforce in the coming year. While this is not what any of us wanted to do, we implore our communities to rally together so that we can work together to provide continuous in-person educational opportunities to our students.

We also thought it prudent to note that we are aware of potential protests and demonstrations speaking out against the school mask mandate and our district's decision to follow the Executive Order. Our hope is that while we support everyone's right to protest the Governor's decisions, we ask you to please allow us to operate the school environment that is conducive to learning.

We desperately just want the opportunity to educate your students again. While every single county district was strongly considering OR had already recommended a mask-optional approach, we now find ourselves in this difficult position. We ask you for support so that we can get back to our primary purpose of educating your student.

Again, as district leaders throughout the county, we appreciate your patience and support. We have the opportunity to make the best of a situation we all wish we were not in and to do so we need your support.

Thank you,

Dr. Mahoney
Ogle County Superintendents

As we reflect back on the 20-21 school year and look forward to the 21-22 school year we are focused on providing our students as much of a normal school experience as possible.

For this planning the District continued to focus on the two guiding principles identified last year to help shape our planning work. They are:

1. The care, safety, health (mental and physical), and welfare of children, families, staff, and community at large.
2. Provide for the continuity of learning for our students

Guidance Documents

On Monday, August 2nd, IDPH released guidance for school -

http://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/08.02.21%20ISBE_School_FAQs.pdf

ISBE-IDPH released updated guidance on August 9th -

https://www.isbe.net/Documents/ISBE-IDPH-School-FAQs-20210809.pdf?_cldee=dG1haG9uZXIAb2N1c2QubmV0&recipientid=contact-9ce4b8d36df4ea11a816000d3a5913bd-3ce2b216ea4341acbc64a3764d6e98aa&esid=2fd2adf1-51f9-eb11-94ef-0022480aa2b2

On Wednesday, August 4th, Governor Pritzker announced masks will be required for all students, staff, and visitors at pre-k - 12 schools. Based on the announcement OCUSD #220 will amend our 21-22 school year plan to comply with the Governor's Executive Order

<https://www.illinois.gov/government/executive-orders/executive-order.executive-order-number-18.2021.html>

On Monday, August 9th, ISBE released revised guidance for schools.

https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Updated-Public-Health-School-Guidance.pdf?_cldee=dG1haG9uZXIAb2N1c2QubmV0&recipientid=contact-9ce4b8d36df4ea11a816000d3a5913bd-d47b675ef11c42268fe438983567b355&esid=6d60c4fb-d0f6-eb11-94ef-0022480aa2b2

The intent of this document is not to be all inclusive of every detail of our plan but to provide a broad overview of the planning that has been completed.

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ISBE/IDPH Non-Negotiables

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)/Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), State of Illinois
Non-Negotiables that are included in the plan;

- Masks must be worn while using district transportation.
- Masks must be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older).
- Social distancing of at least 3 feet when possible.
- Multiple mitigations strategies should be in place (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)
- 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.
- 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).

Masking Policy

- Masks **must** be worn while using district transportation.
- Masks **must** be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) per Governor JB Pritzker Executive Order. The district will enforce the mask mandate while individuals are in attendance at school or school related events. Teachers are encouraged to provide appropriately spaced mask breaks and have students outside when feasible.
- Mask exemptions for medical conditions remain available. Students who provide a provider's note to their school documenting that they are medically unable to tolerate wearing a face covering may use a face shield instead
- Activities/Athletics - On August 4th, the IHSA released the following information.

On August 4, 2021, Governor Pritzker announced an update to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) All-Sports Policy that will require masks to be worn for all indoor IHSA athletic events regardless of an individual's vaccination status. This mask directive for indoor athletic events applies to student-athletes, coaches, officials, game personnel, and fans.

This masking mandate applies to all IHSA fall sport practices and contests that are conducted indoors. Swimmers and divers do not have to wear masks while competing, but must adhere at all other times. The masking directive also applies to any winter or spring IHSA sports that may be conducting open gyms, general conditioning, or weightlifting indoors.

There are no restrictions to scheduling or spectator limitations as a result of today's announcement, nor are there any changes to the IHSA calendar for any sports.

- Masking is required at all indoor events.

Multiple Mitigation Strategies

The district will implement the following mitigation strategies

- BinaxNow screening testing.
- Ensure correct ventilation in our buildings.
- Encourage hand washing and respiratory etiquette.
- Require students, teachers, and staff to stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
- Contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation.
- Daily cleaning and disinfection of learning spaces.
- If the masking mandate is removed, we will use metrics to determine if we need to put in place additional mitigation efforts (masks) based on positivity in buildings. Metrics used to guide local decision making are below
 - **Minimal:** Cases are not increasing by >10% for two consecutive weeks OR total cases within the district are less than 3% the student population
 - **Moderate:** Case number increases for 2 weeks, by > 10% each week and $\leq 20\%$ AND total cases within the district are more than 3% of the student population
 - **Substantial:** Case number increases for 2 weeks, by > 20% each week AND total cases within the district are more than 3% of the student population

While we believe that these metrics will provide us a clear path for decision making, situations may occur in which we make the determination for additional mitigation requirements regardless of the metrics.

FAQ's - In-Person Learning

1. What does self-certification mean and what will it look like for 21-22?
 - a. There will be no required self-certification process through PowerSchool this school year. We are requiring students, teachers, and staff to stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
 - b. Current known symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle, body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion, or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
2. What if a student refuses to wear a mask? Our staff will make every effort to work with students regarding the mask mandate. Refusal to wear a mask may result in application of the student discipline policy.
3. What are the school start times?
 - a. School will revert back to our normal start and finish times. Times for each building can be found here;
 - i. OES - pg 19 of the Student Handbook
<https://4.files.edl.io/75e2/01/25/21/153347-5c80b26a-2cc1-470b-bfae-22d09b2e37ca.pdf>
 - ii. DLR - pg 21 and 22 of the Student Handbook
<https://4.files.edl.io/1eac/07/13/21/131003-acc50f75-7fdf-45ee-8691-37c53f012d39.pdf>
 - iii. OHS - pg 2,3 and 4 of the Student Handbook -
<https://4.files.edl.io/8508/05/19/21/190738-905632c3-f8ca-421f-acd8-6eb141c500e1.pdf>
4. How will you follow social distancing during the school day at OES, DLR, and OHS?
 - a. Social distancing of at least 3 feet when possible.
5. Will there still be contact tracing and quarantine for close contacts
 - a. Please see page 12 under health information for information regarding contact tracing and quarantine.
6. Will my student be able to attend Whiteside Area Career Center (WACC) for classes this fall?
 - a. Yes, we will be attending WACC this school year.

FAQ's - Remote Learning

Is remote learning an option for families?

Remote learning was available during the last school year as a result of the Governor's executive orders waiving portions of the school code to allow for flexibility in delivering instruction. When the Governor's June 25th emergency order expired on July 25th, remote learning was eliminated as an option for students.

What if my child has a doctor's note excluding them from school as a result of a medical condition?

For students who have a documented medical conditions that would not allow them to attend the district will support them in the following manner:

OHS/DLR students will be provided instruction through APEX learning, an online learning platform. Additionally, these students would be eligible for tutoring from Paper Co. More information on both APEX and Paper Co. will be provided by your student's building staff.

OES students will have access to their Schoology/Google Classroom for each teacher/content area and be provided access to FevTutoring for additional support. Teachers will check in with families at least once/week via email, phone call, and/or Class Dojo.

For students who are quarantined OCUSD will continue to support their learning through asynchronous learning or other methods agreed upon by the parent and teacher and access to tutoring services.

Can my child use remote learning for other reasons?

Please note, students may not utilize remote learning for personal days off, vacation or short illnesses. School administration must approve remote learning use.

OES - 21-22 Plan

Guiding Principles	The care, safety, health, and welfare of children, families, staff, and the community at large. Provide for the continuity of learning for our students
Self-Certification Process	There will be no online self certification required for families. Students must be symptom free prior to the student entering the building or boarding a school transportation vehicle. If your child is not symptom free, they must stay home.
Social Distancing	Where possible, students will be seated 3 feet apart in classrooms.
Before School	Classes will line up by homeroom socially distanced. No before school play/intermixing.
Playground/Recess	Sanitize before/after playground use. Masks will not need to be worn outside (optional).
Lunch/Snacks/Water Bottles	Students will sit in the lunchroom by homeroom - no intermixing of classes. Consider using entire sides of gyms to maximize social distancing. No capacity limits will be a normal lunch schedule.
Band/Choir	Students will perform as they did in the 2020-2021 school year. Choir students will be spread out at least three feet and go outside when possible. Band students will spread chairs out as well at least three feet.
PPE	Follow district masking policy. Masks (cloth and disposable) will be available to all students and staff upon request. Hand sanitizer, disinfectant and paper towels will be located in every room.
Cleaning	Sanitation will occur daily.
Quarantined - Remote Learning	Asynchronous- check Schoology for assignments. Teacher will check in 1 time per week. Tutoring services will be available via online. More information to come.
Transportation	All students utilizing district transportation are required to mask at all times.

DLR - 21-22 Plan

Guiding Principles	<p>Guiding principles -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The care, safety, health, and welfare of children, families, staff, and the community at large. 2. Provide for the continuity of learning for our students
Self-Certification Process	<p>There will be no online self certification required for families. Students must be symptom free prior to the student entering the building or boarding a school transportation vehicle. If your child is not symptom free, they must stay home.</p>
Social Distancing	<p>Where possible, students will be seated 3 feet apart in classrooms. Additionally, depending on approved masking policy, students will be seated alternately masked vs. unmasked.</p>
Learning Materials	<p>All students will be issued a ChromeBook to use. Lab and art materials will be wiped down between classes if time permits.</p>
Hall Lockers	<p>Student lockers will be issued for the 2021-2022 school year.</p>
Lunch	<p>If no capacity limits, students will eat in the lunchroom. If there are capacity limits, students will be split between the lunch, band and choir rooms to eat.</p>
PE	<p>Students will participate in PE following state and local guidance regarding use of equipment and mitigation guidelines.</p>
Music/Band	<p>Both programs will take place as per 2020-2021 with social distancing being at three feet this school year.</p>
Transportation	<p>All students utilizing district transportation are required to mask at all times.</p>
PPE	<p>Follow district masking policy. Masks (cloth and disposable) will be available to all students and staff upon request. Hand sanitizer, disinfectant and paper towels will be located in every room.</p>
Cleaning	<p>Sanitation will occur daily. .</p>
Quarantined Remote Learning	<p>Asynchronous- check Schoology for assignments. Teacher will check in 1 time per week. Tutoring service (Paper Company) will be available online 24/7.</p>
Extra Curriculars	<p>All-Sports Policy that will require masks to be worn for all indoor IHSA athletic events regardless of an individual's vaccination status. This mask directive for indoor athletic events applies to student-athletes, coaches, officials, game personnel, and fans.</p> <p>This masking mandate applies to all IHSA fall sport practices and contests that are conducted indoors. Swimmers and divers do not have to wear masks while competing, but must adhere at all other times. The masking directive also applies to any winter or spring IHSA sports that may be conducting open gyms, general conditioning, or weightlifting indoors.</p>

OHS - 21-22 Plan

Guiding Principal	The care, safety, health, and welfare of children, families, staff, and the community at large. Provide for the continuity of learning for our students
School Hours	Building will be open 7:30 - 4:00
Self-Certification Process	There will be no online self certification required for families. Students must be symptom free prior to the student entering the building or boarding a school transportation vehicle. If your child is not symptom free, they must stay home.
Social Distancing	As much as possible, students will be spread out at least 3ft; Most classrooms already do with with current desk arrangements
Lunch	There are now three lunch periods, which brings the total number of students down to approximately 140 per period (the cafeteria holds 200). Cafeteria tables will be marked to indicate 3ft of distance. Students will be expected to maintain this distance. We will not have issues providing this amount of space for students.
Hallways	Passing periods will remain the same as they have been. Five minute passing. No loitering. Students will need to keep moving, swiftly, through the halls.
PPE	Follow district masking policy. Masks (cloth and disposable) will be available to all students and staff upon request. Hand sanitizer, disinfectant and paper towels will be located in every room.
Physical Education	Students will participate in PE following state and local guidance regarding use of equipment and mitigation guidelines. We plan to have students change into PE clothes in the locker rooms.
Band/Choir	Students will participate in band/choir following state and local guidance regarding use of equipment and mitigation guidelines.
Cleaning	Sanitation will occur daily.
Athletics/Activities	All-Sports Policy that will require masks to be worn for all indoor IHSA athletic events regardless of an individual's vaccination status. This mask directive for indoor athletic events applies to student-athletes, coaches, officials, game personnel, and fans. This masking mandate applies to all IHSA fall sport practices and contests that are conducted indoors. Swimmers and divers do not have to wear masks while competing, but must adhere at all other times. The masking directive also applies to any winter or spring IHSA sports that may be conducting open gyms, general conditioning, or weightlifting indoors.
Quarantine Remote Learning	Asynchronous lessons will be provided in Schoology for students who are temporarily quarantined due to exposure. Teachers may choose to include students synchronously. Also, students will have 24/7 access to online tutors through Paper.co
Lockers	Any student who wants a locker will be issued a locker. Lockers will be spread out throughout the building.
Transportation	All students utilizing district transportation are required to mask at all times.

Health Service Information

- 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.
- It is recommended that medically fragile and immunocompromised students consult their medical provider prior to attending school.
- **Close Contact** - According to the new CDC close contact definition, classroom students who were within 3 to 6 feet of the infected student are **not treated as close contacts** as long as both the infected student and exposed student were engaged in consistent and correct use of a well-fitting mask. In other words, only classroom contacts **within 3 feet require quarantine** as long as both the case and the contact were consistently masked. If they were not consistently masked, then close contacts are classroom students who were within 6 feet of the infected student for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
- **Quarantine** - The local health department will make the final determination on who is to be quarantined and for how long. They also may determine that a close contact is not a candidate for modified quarantine due to a high-risk exposure (e.g., sustained close contact without masking).
 - Option 1: 1 Quarantine at home for 14 calendar days. Date of last exposure is considered day 0.
 - Option 2: 2 Quarantine for 10 calendar days after the close contact's last exposure to the COVID-19 case. Date of last exposure is considered day 0. o The individual may end quarantine after day 10 if no symptoms of COVID-19 developed during daily monitoring. o SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing is recommended and may be required by the local health department. o The individual can maintain physical distancing and masking at all times when returning to school; for classrooms where masking is strictly adhered to, physical distance of 3 to 6 feet is acceptable for return.
 - Option 3: 3 Quarantine period is for seven calendar days after the last exposure if: o No symptoms developed during daily monitoring AND the individual has a negative SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic test (PCR) that was collected within 48 hours of exposure day 7 (starting on day 6 or after)
 - Test to stay - Non-symptomatic students who are determined to be close contacts can test out of quarantine if they test negative on days 1,3,5, and 7. The district will be providing the BinaxNow nasal swab test for those families who elect to use this option. More detail on the test to stay option is below;
 - Test to Stay is only applicable when both the COVID-19-confirmed student and close contact were engaged in consistent and correct use of well-fitting masks and the school requires universal indoor masking for all individuals (age 2 and older), regardless of vaccination status, as recommended by the CDC.
 - Test to Stay may be used for any indoor exposure, with the exception of household exposures.
 - Students engaged in Test to Stay after an exposure may participate in extracurricular activities. Local health departments have the authority to order a classroom-only Test to Stay protocol after assessing the risk of an individual situation.
 - Because students engaged in the Test to Stay protocol were exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19, they must wear a mask while indoors at school, regardless of the mask policy at school.

- However, if the close contact is identified five days or more from the date of exposure, adjust testing accordingly, ideally on days five and seven after the last exposure.
 - When testing in the outlined cadence is not possible due to weekends and holidays, students should be tested at the earliest possible opportunity.
 - At the conclusion of the Test to Stay modified quarantine period, the school should notify the local health department that the student has successfully completed testing and remained negative.
 - Local health departments have the authority to assess high-risk exposures and order a traditional quarantine without the option for Test to Stay.
 - If at any time the student tests positive or becomes symptomatic, they should be immediately isolated and sent home, and the local health department notified.
- **COVID BinaxNow Testing** - if a parent has provided permission, a student maybe tested using the Abbot BinaxNow test.
 - This test is a rapid antigen tests that should provide results within 15 mins.
 - Parents will be contacted if the student is sick and testing needs to occur.
 - Students that are 18 or older will not need a parent's consent for testing.
 - Results will be shared with families and the Ogle County Health Department.
- **BinaxNow TESTING/Communication PROCEDURE.**
 - Parent consent is needed for BinaxNow testing to occur.
 - Students that are 18 or older will not need a parent's consent for testing.
 - If consent is on file, students will be tested and parents will be notified of results.
 - If there is no parent consent, parents will be notified to pick up students and further instruction will be given.
 - If a student is uncooperative with testing (even though consent is on file) parents will be notified to pick up the student and further instruction will be given.

What happens if a student/staff member becomes ill or is exposed to someone who has or is expected to have COVID-19?

- Students/staff will be sent home if they present with a fever of a 100.4 or greater or with one or more known Covid-19 symptoms. The school nurse will make the decision based on the student/staff's clinical presentation.
- Contact tracing will occur and any student who had more than 15 minutes of exposure to the individual will be quarantined.
- Non-symptomatic students who are determined to be close contacts can test out of quarantine if they test negative on days 1,3,5, and 7. The district will be providing the BinaxNow nasal swab test for those families who elect to use this option.
- There will be a separate,safe and supervised area to quarantine students with COVID-19 symptoms until they are picked up.
- If a student or staff member receives a positive test result for COVID-19 the Ogle County Health Department will be notified for further guidance.
- Students or staff returning from illness related to COVID-19 will check in with the school nurse following quarantine to verify resolution of symptoms.
- Students/staff will be sent home if they present with a fever of a 100.4 or greater or with one or more known Covid-19 symptoms. The school nurse will make the decision based on the student/staff's clinical presentation.

- Contact tracing will occur and any student who had more than 15 minutes of exposure to the individual will be quarantined. There are two exceptions to this process; 1) the close contact student is fully vaccinated and has no symptoms. 2) both the infected student and the close contact student have been properly masked.
- There will be a separate, safe and supervised area to quarantine students with COVID-19 symptoms until they are picked up. These students will be masked.
- If a student or staff member receives a positive test result for COVID-19 the Ogle County Health Department will be notified for further guidance.
- Students or staff returning from illness related to COVID-19 will check in with the school nurse following quarantine to verify resolution of symptoms.
- **Vaccination**
As we did last year, OCUSD will work with the Ogle County Health Department to provide information regarding COVID-19 vaccine clinics. In 2020 - 21 the district offered students of age 12 and older the opportunity to receive the vaccine at school. If demand arises, the district will work with local health agencies to bring forward more opportunities for vaccination.

Transportation Guidance

Your student's safety is our main concern. Our bus drivers are dedicated to getting your students to school and home in the safest manner possible.

For the 21-22 school year

- Masks are **mandatory** for students on all school buses. Please have your students practice social distancing and wear masks at bus stops.
 - If a student gets on the bus wearing a mask and then refuses to wear the mask on the bus, the driver will report the incident to the school and the administrator will take appropriate actions.

Routes/Times

- As with each school year there will be some changes in our routing based on the number of students who request transportation. Drivers will communicate with families about student's bus (animal name), pick up and drop off times, and locations for 21-22 transportation the week prior to school beginning.

Just a reminder, the bus your student rode last year (animal), the route, and/or driver may be different than last year. As stated previously, you will be contacted by your driver with your student's bus animal name, pick up time and drop off time.

With the national shortage of bus drivers, if our district has to quarantine three drivers at the same time bus transportation will be disrupted and could limit our ability to provide your student transportation.

If there is anything transportation can do to better help you as we approach this school year please contact Liz Myers or Zach VanVelzer at Transportation@ocusd.net

Building Sanitation

Additional facilities cleaning measures for OES, DLR, OHS, & BHC;

- All occupied classrooms and offices will be supplied with hand sanitizer, disinfectant and dry wipes.
- Per the CDC, When no people with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 are known to have been in a space, cleaning once a day is usually enough to sufficiently remove virus that may be on surfaces and help maintain a healthy facility.
- If there has been a sick person or someone who tested positive for COVID-19 in a room within the last 24 hours, we will clean AND disinfect the space with our Clorox 360 or Victory electrostatic sprayer.
- Additional trash receptacles will be placed strategically throughout the buildings to aid in lunch/snack cleanup.
- Main offices, counselors' offices, nurse stations and district offices will be sanitized daily.
- DLR/OHS – Following lunch each day, all designated lunch areas will be sanitized.
- All maintenance/custodial staff will routinely disinfect shared maintenance and custodial equipment dependent on usage.

Since Governor Pritzker's Executive Order mandated masks in school for all individuals on Wednesday, **all** county school leaders and school board members have been working diligently in an attempt to adapt their previous plans, communicate unwelcome news to our communities, and to prepare for the upcoming school year. What has become clear, is that we are all struggling with the same reality and we wanted to share consistent information with everyone across the county. Therefore, we decided to collaborate and create a consistent message to share with all Ogle County communities.

In our plan you will find many details in which all districts will need to enforce in the coming year. While this is not what any of us wanted to do, we implore our communities to rally together so that we can work together to provide continuous in-person educational opportunities to our students.

We also thought it prudent to note that we are aware of potential protests and demonstrations speaking out against the statewide mandate and our district's decision to follow the Executive Order. Our hope is that while we support everyone's right to protest the Governor's decisions, we ask you to please allow us to operate the school environment that is conducive to learning.

We desperately just want the opportunity to educate your students again. While every single county district was strongly considering OR had already recommended a mask-optional approach, we now find ourselves in this difficult position. We ask you for support so that we can get back to our primary purpose of educating your student.

Again, as district leaders throughout the county, we appreciate your patience and support. We have the opportunity to make the best of a situation we all wish we were not in and to do so we need your support.

Thank you,

Ogle County Superintendents