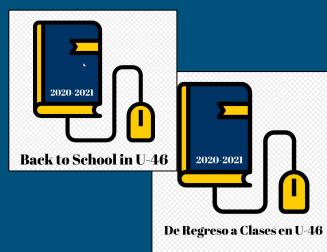


Update on 2021-2022 Back To School Plan

May 17, 2021



Concluding the 2020-2021 Year

The CDC guidance states that schools should continue to use the current COVID-19 prevention strategies for the 2020-2021 year.

Summary of Recent Changes

Updates as of May 15, 2021

 CDC recommends schools continue to use the current COVID-19 prevention strategies for the 2020-2021 school year.

View Previous Updates

Key Points

- 1. Evidence suggests that many K-12 schools that have strictly implemented prevention strategies have been able to safely open for in-person instruction and remain open.
- 2. CDC's K-12 operational strategy presents a pathway for schools to provide in-person instruction safely through consistent use of prevention strategies, including universal and correct use of masks and physical distancing.
- All schools should implement and layer prevention strategies and should prioritize universal and correct use of masks and physical distancing.
- Testing to identify individuals with SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccination for teachers and staff provide additional layers of COVID-19 protection in schools.

May 14 ISBE Declaration

Illinois State Superintendent of Education Carmen Ayala is recommending the State Board of Education vote to approve her declaration: "Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, all schools must resume fully in-person learning for all student attendance days, provided that ... remote instruction be made available for students who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine **and** are under a quarantine order by a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health."

Safe Return to All In-Person Instruction

Mitigation Strategies:

- 1. Universal mask wearing
- Social distancing observed as much as possible and per guidance
- 3. Contact tracing
- 4. Increase in schoolwide cleaning and disinfection
- 5. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- 6. Self-Certification per guidance
- 7. Occupancy restrictions per guidance



Additional Mitigation Strategies

- 1. Testing Binax Now/CLIA Waiver approved. Available now.
- 2. Vaccinations



In-Person Instructional Model Updates

- Students return for full-day instruction beginning August 16, 2021.
- A/B day designations are eliminated.



In-Person Updates Continued

- Approximately 36,000 students PreK Transition are expected to return for in-person instruction
 - Professional Development Sessions Focused on Standards Based Learning and Assessment, Core Instruction and Instructional Leadership
 - Classroom structures
 - Planning: curriculum, resources, strategies



In-Person Updates Continued

- Implement in-person lunch across
 57 sites
- Arrange, rearrange, measure and measure again almost all facilities and learning spaces
- Update technology in all classrooms



Next Steps

May

- Waiting for clarification from ISBE concerning what options may or may not exist for Distance Learning for the 2021-2022 school year.
- May 19 ISBE scheduled board meeting to vote on the declaration
- Consider May 24 for a possible optional Board meeting based on guidance received from ISBE

June

• Finalize staffing, scheduling and professional development

