



River Bend Community Unit School District #2

Where Everybody is Somebody

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DATE: July 22, 2021
 TO: River Bend CUSD 2 Board Members
 FROM: Darryl Hogue, Superintendent
 RE: River Bend CUSD 2 Return to Learn 2021-2022 Plan

- **The following document is in draft form for consideration and planning.**

RIVER BEND CUSD 2 2021-2022 Return to Learn Plan

The State of Illinois, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) have approved the usage of the CDC guidelines for schools. These guidelines emphasize the value of in-person instruction for Pre-K-12th grade. According to ISBE, "Schools should work with local public health officials to determine the prevention strategies needed in their area by monitoring levels of community transmission (i.e., low, moderate, substantial, or high) and local vaccine coverage, and use of screening testing to detect cases in K-12 schools." Our metrics could determine more or less mitigation strategies throughout the school year based on our local conditions at hand. The following table is a list of guiding principles for our district returning to school this fall. **If conditions change, updates will be provided.**

Categories	River Bend CUSD 2 Plan
School Day/Hours	School Days – 5 days <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elementary – 8:00 a.m. – 2:55 p.m. • Junior High – 8:05 a.m. – 3:05 p.m. • High School – 8:10 a.m. – 3:10 p.m.
Mask Use	River Bend School District's goal is to protect the health of all students and staff. In alignment with recommendations from the CDC, "Mask use is recommended (not required) for people who are not fully vaccinated including students, teachers, and staff. Children under 2 years of age should not wear a mask." Individuals who are fully vaccinated may resume activities without wearing a mask except where required by federal, state, and local rules and regulations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At this point, masking will be required on all school busses. • Mask usage may be necessary for some specific school activities that do not allow for social distancing. • If Covid 19 spread increases locally, the District will may need to adjust this practice and increase the need or requirement to wear masks.
Quarantine & Contact Tracing	Fully vaccinated persons do not have to quarantine. Our district will continue to collaborate with our local health departments, to the extent allowable by privacy laws, about students and staff diagnosed or within close contact (6 feet/15 minutes) of a positive case. Students and staff who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as influenza (flu) or COVID-19, should stay home and contact their healthcare provider for testing and care. Contact tracing is subject to change based on the most current guidance from IDPH and

	our local health department. Quarantined students will be provided with curriculum, materials and instructions to continue learning while in quarantine.
Physical Distancing	To the extent possible within school and classroom structures, the district will work towards the goal of at least three feet of distancing.
Handwashing	Staff will continue to monitor and reinforce frequent handwashing and promote the usage of hand sanitizer.
Facility & Transportation Cleaning, Disinfection & Ventilation	School custodial staff and transportation staff will continue to clean surfaces daily. To further reduce the risk of spreading infection staff will disinfect spaces occupied by someone who tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 24 hours. When possible, staff will have activities, classes, or lunches outdoors when circumstances allow. When it does not pose a safety risk, transportation staff will keep vehicle windows open at least a few inches to improve air circulation.

Symptom Checking	Families will be asked to monitor symptoms at home if students experience: Fever, headache, sore throat, chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, loss of taste or smell, congestion, runny nose or diarrhea do not send your child to school. Contact the school nurse who will advise.
Local Data Recording	The building principals and staff will once again closely monitor positive cases, exposure to positive cases and students with symptoms. This data will help determine the appropriate level of mitigation strategies for the District.
Limited use of school facilities by public	River Bend facilities will be open to public use as long as positive Covid case numbers remain low. The District may need to limit the use of it facilities based on local Covid data.

This plan will be frequently reviewed and analyzed based on our local metrics. In collaboration with our local health department, the district may determine more or less mitigation strategies based on the current conditions. The River Bend Board of Education provides the superintendent and administration the authority to modify this plan in the event that IDPH, ISBE or the Whiteside County Health Department determine the current mitigation strategies are no longer appropriate.