



HAWTHORN DISTRICT 73

SEPTEMBER 24, 2020



One District, One Mission

*"Inspire all students to embrace learning
in an ever-changing world."*

District 73 Goals for Reopening Schools

- Prioritize *health and safety*
- Ensure a *smooth transition* back to in-person schooling for all students, staff, and families.
- Prepare for *multiple scenarios*
- Remain *nimble and flexible*, acting in accordance with guidelines from the Illinois State Board of Education, Illinois Department of Public Health, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Provide a remote learning option for families uncomfortable sending their child(ren) to school for in-person learning.
- Promote collective responsibility and kindness throughout the Hawthorn community.



ISBE and IDPH Guidance

| Planning | Instruction Recommendations | Health and Safety Protocols |

- Districts must prepare for an alternative structure to in-person learning for ***students with elevated health risks***.
- Districts must plan for a ***return to remote instruction*** pending a resurgence of the virus.
- Districts must follow IDPH guidelines for Phase 4. These include:
 - Requiring the use of appropriate **personal protective equipment** (PPE) including masks;
 - Prohibiting more than **50 individuals** from gathering in one space;
 - Requiring that **social distancing** (6 feet) be observed, including on buses;
 - Requiring that schools conduct **symptom screenings**, or require that individuals **self-certify** that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings; and
 - Requiring an **increase in schoolwide cleaning and disinfection**.



Previous Timelines and Considerations

- Monitor and evaluate data to determine if conditions exist to proceed with supporting some in-person learning.
 - Monitor for positivity trends in Region 9 and our more immediate area
 - Monitor for “prevalence” ratios
 - Evaluate availability for testing and turnaround time for testing
 - Monitor for contact tracing to be available and “common place”
- If data allows, begin in-person learning with our youngest learners first.



Return to Learning Metrics

- IDPH & The Northern Illinois Health Department Consortium have developed and released metrics to support and drive school decisions.
- These metrics identify mild, moderate, and substantial community spread parameters, and align those parameters with instructional model recommendations for schools.



Local Metrics

Other local factors that may impact decision making include:

- Success in each phase.
- Number of students who are reporting or exhibiting Covid-like symptoms on a daily and weekly basis, and are in isolation or quarantine status.
- Number of staff who are reporting or exhibiting Covid-like symptoms on a daily and weekly basis, and are in isolation or quarantine status.
- Diagnostic testing turn around rate, and access to testing.
- Ability to secure substitute teachers.
- Ability to transport students to and from school.



Other Considerations

- Who is successful and safe around us? What are they doing?
- What additional information does the Director of the Lake County Health Department share with us each week regarding the data?



Next Phase Planning

Next Phase Planning: When/how will we know the time is right to proceed?

Metrics:

- Virtual: All learning is remote for all learners as ***community spread is substantial.***
- Hybrid: Some learning can and should occur in-person based on student need while minimizing risk as ***community spread is moderate.***
- Full In-Person: All learning can occur in-person as ***community spread is minimal.***

Decisions are made in consultation with the health department.

Full in-person learning for *all* can only take place when restrictions are lifted (6 feet social distancing).



Potential Learning Models

- ***Remote (Virtual) Learning*** - Due to public health concerns, students and staff are required to participate in Remote Learning.
- ***Hybrid Learning*** - Schools employ a hybrid approach to teaching and learning, with students participating in both at-home and on-campus learning.



Tentative Timeline of Next Steps

October 15: Board Update (Hybrid Model Outlined for Early Childhood Students, Pre-K Students, and K-2 Students in Self-Contained Special Education)

October 26: Early Childhood Students Return to Learning (Hybrid Model)

November 9: Pre-K Students and K-2 Students in Self-Contained Special Education Return to Learning (Hybrid Model)

November 12: Board Update (Hybrid Model Outlined for All K-2 Students and 3-8 Students in Self-Contained Special Education)

November 30: All K-2 Students and 3-8 Students in Self-Contained Special Education Return to Learning (Hybrid Model)

December 10: Board Update (Hybrid Model Outlined for All 3-8 Students)

January 4: All 3-8 Grade Return to Learning (Hybrid Model)



Questions



Future District Leadership Work

- **Staffing**
 - When a school building/program reopens for students, staff at the school must report in person. Any related services team member (ELL, social work, speech/language, OT, PT, psychologist, APE) providing a direct service or support to students on-site must also report in person at that time.
 - EC Staff - October 26
 - Pre-K Staff and K-2 Self-Contained Special Education Staff - November 9
 - K-2 Staff and 3-8 Self-Contained Special Education Staff - November 30
 - 3-8 Staff - January 4

- **Return to Learning Committee**
 - Continue all planning work via subcommittees
 - Prepare buildings and technology
 - Identify needs for Remote Learning Planning Days



What metrics?

Lake County Metrics

- Incidence Rates* (Lake County)
Cases per 100,000. Used together with other relevant epidemiological factors (rapid increase in cases, outbreaks, or significant shift in demographics of cases, etc.)
- Positivity Rate (Lake County)

Regional and State Metrics

- Positivity Rate (Region 9)
- Consecutive days of positivity increases (Region 9)