



HEALTH SAFETY

PLAN 2023-2024



SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

This Return to School Plan has been developed in accordance with the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and public health guidance issued by the Illinois State Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and addresses adjustments needed in response to evolving COVID-19 pandemic circumstances. The Return to School plan was reviewed by district administration in the fall of 2023. The plan will be brought to the School Board for approval on October 17th, 27th, 2023. The guidance referenced in this plan is based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), and Dakota administration, and is subject to change.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

To ensure the continued well-being of our stakeholders, the following guiding principles have been put in place:

1. CONTINUED FULL IN-PERSON LEARNING
2. EMPLOYEE AND STUDENT SAFETY MEASURES
3. HEALTH GUIDELINES

SECTION ONE: DISTRICT WIDE SOLUTION FOR RETURN TO SCHOOL

Pre-K-12- In-Person instruction Monday - Friday all day

In accordance with the Illinois State Superintendent of Schools July 9, 2021, declaration, all Dakota CUSD #201 schools will be open fully for in-person learning for all student attendance days for the 2021-22 school year. Students will be in school from 8:00am-3:10pm. Absent an order from the Illinois State Board of Education and/or the Illinois Governor's Office, Dakota CUSD #201 schools will be in operation in accordance with the CDC's updated (July 9, 2021) Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Kindergarten (K)-12 Schools, also adopted by the IDPH on July 9, 2021. These guidelines include the following:

Remote Learning

The district will not offer remote learning during the 2023-2024 school year.

SECTION TWO: SAFETY OF STUDENTS, STAFF, AND VISITORS

EMPLOYEE AND STUDENT SAFETY

HEALTH PROTOCOL

If a student or employee has been diagnosed with COVID-19, it's recommended to quarantine for 5 days from symptom onset or positive test. Students and/or staff shall not return to school until at least 24 hours have passed since overall recovery (no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, vomiting, diarrhea); and you have improvement in overall symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, etc).

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

To minimize exposure to COVID-19, staff or family members may consider using PPE.

In addition to using PPE, please remember to:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow

PERSONAL WORKSPACE/CLASSROOM

Employees are encouraged to disinfect their own personal workspace (teacher desk, student desk between periods, phone, etc.) throughout the day, giving special attention to commonly touched surfaces.

SHARED WORKSPACE

Employees are encouraged to disinfect their own workspace giving special attention to commonly touched surfaces.

FACILITIES CLEANING

The safety of our employees and students are our priority.

GENERAL DISINFECTION MEASURES

We will continue to use CDC and IDPH guidelines for cleaning. Restrooms will be cleaned throughout the day and may be closed for scheduled cleanings.

Cafeteria will be in full use and tables will be cleaned in between each grade level or lunch period.

FOOD DELIVERY/CAFETERIA USE

Lunch may be brought from home.

Breakfast and lunch will take place in the cafeteria

- Students can go through the serving line
- Tables will be cleaned after each use

BUS DRIVER/BUS PROTOCOLS/TRANSPORTATION

All bus safety protocols will be determined by First Student and the Freeport school district.

LOCKER ROOMS

Students don't have to use the locker room or change clothing for PE class.

RECESS

Recess will be allowed with the use of the playground equipment.

PLAN REVIEW

Through September 30, 2023, this plan will be reviewed no less frequently than every six months and revised as appropriate after seeking and considering public input. Revisions will address the most recently updated safety recommendations by the CDC, IDPH, and ISBE and made publicly available on the district's website.

SECTION THREE: ACADEMICS

Grading and Attendance

To receive credit and attendance for the courses for this school year students are expected to complete the assignments and follow in-person protocols.

Completion Protocols

Students not making progress, not completing academic packets or opting not to participate in assigned work or in-person learning, will be eligible for summer school. For promotion to the next grade level or passing of the course, students will need to have completed the requirements outlined in the grading policy.