

Robein School
2021-2022
Return to School Plan



The 2020-21 school year was unprecedented in a number of ways. At Robein we saw our teachers, staff, students, and community pull together like never before to ensure our students had in person learning for the entire school year. We realize that COVID 19 is something we will continue to live with for the near future, and need to do so without sacrificing the quality of educational opportunities our students deserve. Should the rate of transmission of COVID-19 in our school increase to certain levels, we have a tiered plan for mitigation outlined.

In Person Learning

Following the guidance released by the Illinois State Board of Education and State Superintendent Dr. Carmen Ayala's declaration calling on the return to full time in-person learning, Robein School District #85 will return to a full day, in-person learning for all grade levels for the upcoming school year. Remote Learning will only be available to a student with a medically documented underlying health condition or an extended COVID 19 related absence longer than three days.

Return to School Plan is subject to change based on new information, recommendations or requirements from ISBE, IDPH, and the CDC.

Health and Wellness Protocols

Face Masks/Coverings:

As required by IDPH and Executive Order 2021-18 , except while eating, face coverings must be worn at all times in school buildings, even when social distance is maintained. All individuals in a school building must wear a face covering unless they have a medical contraindication, are under 2 years of age, have trouble breathing, or are unconscious, incapacitated, or unable to remove the face covering without assistance.

-A doctor's (physician's) note would be required to be exempt from wearing a face covering.

Health and Wellness Protocols

Social Distancing:

Social distance must be observed as much as possible. The CDC recommends that students remain distanced by at least three feet, while maintaining as normal a learning experience as possible. There will be times, however, when students may be closer, such as during lunches, in hallways, and during some instructional and extra-curricular activities. All classrooms will have seating with students seated as far apart as reasonably possible.

Health and Wellness Protocols

Hand Hygiene

- Hand washing and hand sanitizing is key to help prevent the spread of disease.
- Staff and students must clean hands as often as possible with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, hand sanitizer may be used.
- Staff and students must avoid touching their mouth, eyes, or nose as much as possible.
- Staff and students must hand sanitize upon entering the classroom each time.
- Signage reminding everyone of the need for proper hand hygiene will be located in appropriate areas.
- If assisting a student requires close contact, hand washing, or sanitizing must be done before and after contact with students.
- Students will be trained on proper handwashing and hand sanitizing techniques.

Hallways, Office, Common Area Guidance

- Six feet social distancing will be maintained to the greatest extent possible.
- Face coverings will be required.
- Areas will be clearly marked to indicate safe distancing.
- Clearly visible signage reminding everyone of physical distancing and face coverings usage at entryways, hallways, classrooms, and common areas.
- Only Authorized personnel will have access to the building.
- High touch areas will be cleaned throughout the day.
- Playground equipment will be available for use.

Classroom Guidance

- Seating will be arranged as close to 3-6 feet apart to the greatest extent possible and students must all be facing the same direction as feasible.
- Areas will be clearly marked to show where to stand or line-up for 6 foot spacing.
- K-4 To begin the year students will remain with the same classroom group throughout the day (Exception: Students with IEPs will move to the appropriate classroom for specialized instruction. Accommodations for students with IEPs will be determined on a case by case basis).
- 5-8 To begin the year teachers will change classrooms rather than students during passing time (Exception: Students with IEPs will move to the appropriate classroom for specialized instruction. Accommodations for students with IEPs will be determined on a case by case basis).
- Restroom and hand washing breaks will be scheduled and coordinated throughout the day.
- Recess will be scheduled and coordinated by grade level or classroom as applicable to minimize student mixing.
- Hand sanitizing will occur whenever anyone enters or leaves the classroom.
- School supplies will not be shared between students or staff.
- Classrooms will be thoroughly cleaned daily.
- Classroom restrooms will have high touch surfaces cleaned hourly by custodial staff.
- Student desks, door knobs and high touch surfaces will be cleaned using disinfectant daily.
- If available, sanitizing wipes can be used by students and staff to disinfect high touch surfaces daily.
- Teachers will be provided with clean microfiber cloths and disinfectant to be used at their discretion throughout the day. New or washed microfiber cloths will be provided daily.

Physical Education

- Will be held outdoors if possible.
- Indoor P.E. Class will reduce the amount of strenuous exercise.
- Grades 5-8 will not utilize locker rooms or dress for P.E. for the FY22 School year. Two days per week will be health instruction.
- Students and staff should perform hand hygiene at the start and end of each class period or when hands are visibly dirty. Students should also perform hand hygiene after the use of each piece of equipment.

Music and Computer Education

- To begin the year Music will be held in the classroom for Grades K-4.
- Choral program will be available for grades 5-8 during the lunch hour.
- K-4 Computer class be held in the classroom (carts with Chromebooks will be utilized).

Continuity of Services

- At the beginning of the school year student academic levels will be assessed using various programs.
- Skill deficit areas will be noted and targeted by classroom teachers and support staff through our Response to Intervention Program.
- ESSER II Grant was written to provide after school tutoring.
- Social and Emotional supports will be provided to students who may be experiencing stress or trauma.

Remote Learning

Covid Related Illnesses

Remote Learning will only be available to a student with a medically documented underlying health condition or an extended COVID 19 related absence longer than three days.

Students that are absent will be provided remote learning options dependent on the duration of the absence. Teachers will work with students to provide the best possible accommodations based on the individual details related to the absence. All of these accommodations do not apply to voluntary absences.

*Short term absences (3 days or less). Student assignments will be provided via Google Classroom if applicable or through paper copies provided via the school office.

*Longer absences (4 to 14 days). In addition to accessing assignments through Google Classroom if applicable, students will also be able to utilize temporary remote learning with their teacher(s).

Tier 1 Mitigation Strategies

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities:

Preventing the spread of COVID begins at home. Parents are encouraged to be overly cautious when considering whether or not to send a child to school. Before sending students to school each day, parents need to make sure that their children are:

- Fever-free
- Not exhibiting any symptoms of COVID
- Not waiting on the results from a COVID test

Vaccination: The district views the vaccination status of students and staff as private information. However, the district may have to require proof of vaccination for students in order to allow them to avoid certain mitigation strategies, such as healthy quarantining. The district will cooperate with the IDPH and the Tazwell County Health Department regarding vaccination clinics, diagnosis, contact tracing.

Tier 1 Mitigation Strategies

Masking: August 4, 2021 Governor Pritzker issued Executive Order 2021-18, mandating that masks will be required for all students, staff members, and visitors regardless of vaccination or immunity status.

Buses: Masks are required for all students while riding the bus.

Inside the School Building: Per Governor Pritzker's Executive Order, masks will be required for all students, staff members, and visitors regardless of vaccination or immunity status. If the executive order is lifted, consideration will be given to allowing parents the choice as to whether or not their students should wear a mask while in the school building. The decision will be made with consideration given to school and community COVID-19 data.

Tier 1 Mitigation Strategies

Disinfection:

Hand washing: Teachers will continue to encourage students to wash their hands regularly and will provide time during the day to do so.

Cleaning Surfaces: Common surfaces and desks will be sanitized on a daily basis by custodial staff.

Tier 1 Mitigation Strategies

Social Distancing:

The CDC recommends that students remain distanced by at least three feet, while maintaining as normal a learning experience as possible. There will be times, however, when students may be closer, such as during lunches, in hallways, and during some instructional and extra-curricular activities. All classrooms will have seating with students seated as far apart as reasonably possible.

Tier 1 Mitigation Strategies

Symptomatic Quarantines: We will identify and notify those students who were in close contact with a positive case. This is defined as being within 3 feet for over 15 minutes. Parents will be alerted of the close contact, but students and staff will only be quarantined for 10 days from the point of contact if they exhibit COVID symptoms. The office will screen students and staff for symptoms to determine whether or not they must quarantine. Students and staff may return from quarantine earlier than 10 days (per IDPH Guidance) if they provide evidence of a negative COVID 19 test result or receive a written alternative diagnosis from a doctor.

Tier 2 Mitigation Strategies

In the event of a significant increase in COVID infections, additional mitigation strategies beyond **Tier 1** may be implemented in a single classroom, a single grade level, or the entire school. The decision to increase mitigation strategies will be dependent upon school, community, and county-wide metrics, and data and recommendations from the Tazewell County Health Department.

Tier 2 Mitigation Strategies

Masks:

Students and staff will be required to wear masks regardless of vaccination or immunity status.

Distancing:

The school may need to limit the frequency of group gatherings and/or limit the number of people allowed in one space. In the classroom and during activities, we may need to reduce or eliminate the times when students would normally be within 3 feet or less of one another.

Healthy Quarantining:

Healthy quarantines may be used in circumstances involving close contacts, even when the students and staff are not exhibiting symptoms. This may even include those who are vaccinated or are considered immune.