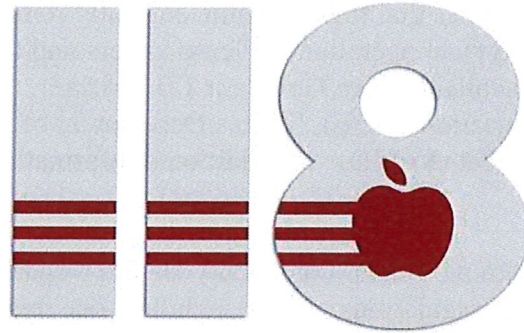


# **Danville District 118**



**FOUNDED 1862**

## **Return-to-School Plan**

**2021 - 2022**



August 11, 2021

Hello, Danville Family,

Danville School District 118 recognizes that the Pandemic currently remains a health concern and places certain restrictions that affect our typical operations. Please understand that this situation is fluid and further information may become available from Governor J.B. Pritzker, Center for Disease Control (CDC), Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and the Vermilion County Health Department (VCHD). As additional information is provided, adjustments to this plan may be necessary.


Danville School District works with the Vermilion County Health Department to ensure we remain consistent with applicable laws and regulations. These include those related to privacy and to determine the prevention strategies needed in our area by monitoring levels of community transmission. District and/or school specific strategies and/or mitigations in this plan may be removed or added based on local vaccine coverage, testing and county metrics set forth by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Vermilion County Health Department (VCHD). Vermilion County metrics considered are number of cases, deaths, percent positivity, testing volume, new hospital admissions (COVID), percent of hospital beds used (COVID), and percent of ICU hospital beds used (COVID).

On July 26, 2021, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) released a joint guidance stating, "... school districts that decide not to follow the CDC's guidance should consult with their insurer regarding risk assumption and liability coverage." It is the recommendation of the school district's legal team to follow the guidance to the greatest extent possible.

On August 9, 2021, ISBE and IDPH released a comprehensive document entitled, "Revised Public Health Guidance for Schools." This document reflects the direction the district will take for mitigation and operations. <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Updated-Public-Health-School-Guidance.pdf>

Together we will work through this situation so our students can continue with their learning. District 118 will continue following their mission: All students will reach their fullest potential. The district will provide instruction, while prioritizing the health and safety of students, staff, and their families. Research indicates that teacher-student relationships have the most positive impact on student learning, and this can best be accomplished through face-to-face, in-person instruction.

Sincerely,



Dr. Alicia Geddis  
Superintendent

## INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

All students will receive in-person instruction unless there is a medically documented reason that prohibits the student from attending school in-person. (See Home Hospital Instruction) Students will attend school five days per week and times will resume to pre-pandemic operations.

	<b>Pre-K</b>	<b>Elementary, K - 4</b>	<b>SVUE &amp; NRMS</b>	<b>KDBA</b>	<b>Danville High School</b>
<b>Student Hours</b>	Southwest Pre-K Morning 8:45 AM – 11:25 AM  Afternoon 12:35 PM – 3:15 PM  Edison Pre-K 7:45 AM – 2:15 PM	7:45 AM – 2:15 PM	9:00 AM – 3:45 PM	8:20 AM – 3:00 PM	8:31 AM – 2:58 PM  7:35 AM – 2:58 PM (w/Early Bird)
<b>Staff Hours</b>	Southwest 7:45 AM – 3:30 PM  Edison 7:20 AM – 3:05 PM	7:20 AM – 3:05 PM	8:15 AM – 4:00 PM	7:30 AM – 3:15 PM	7:25 AM – 3:10 PM

## SAFETY PROCEDURES – MASKS

	<b>Indoors</b>	<b>Outdoors</b>	<b>Transportation</b>
<b>Pre-K – 12</b>	<p>Per the ISBE, IDPH, and CDC Guidance:</p> <p>All students must wear masks, regardless of vaccination status.</p> <p>All staff must wear masks, regardless of vaccination status.</p> <p>All visitors must wear masks, regardless of vaccination status.</p>	<p>Per the ISBE, IDPH, and CDC Guidance:</p> <p>Masks should be used outdoors for individuals over two regardless of vaccination status during activities (e.g., participating in outdoor play, recess, physical education, sports, extra curriculars) that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated, particularly in areas of substantial to high transmission.</p> <p>Each outdoor activity will be individually evaluated by school district personnel.</p>	<p>All students must wear masks.</p> <p>All staff must wear masks.</p>

## SOCIAL DISTANCING

The district has arranged all aspects of its spaces to maximize the distance between students to the greatest extent possible.

The CDC recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within students, 6 feet between students and teachers/staff, and 6 feet between teachers/staff who are not fully vaccinated, combined with indoor mask wearing to reduce transmission risk. Because of the importance of in-person learning, schools



where everyone is not fully vaccinated should implement physical distancing to the extent possible within their structures (in addition to masking and other prevention strategies) but should not exclude students from in-person learning to keep a minimum distance requirement.

Students will utilize social distancing to the greatest extent possible while using lockers, locker rooms, and during passing periods.

### **HOME HOSPITAL INSTRUCTION**

Section 14-13.01(a) of the School Code indicates that services are to be provided when a homebound or hospitalized student is unable to attend school due to a condition certified by a medical statement that indicates that the student will or is anticipated, due to the student's medical condition, to be unable to attend in person learning. If you believe that your child qualifies for home hospital instruction, please contact the principal of the school.

### **VACCINATIONS**

Danville District 118 strongly encourages all staff, students, families, and others in the community to get vaccinated.

### **HAND HYGIENE AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE**

Staff and students will use handwashing and respiratory etiquette (covering coughs and sneezes). Staff and students should abstain from physical contact, including, but not limited to, handshakes, high fives, and hugs.

### **VENTILATION**

District 118 increased fresh air exchange in buildings using our HVAC systems and, when possible, windows will be opened in classrooms and on buses.

### **CLEANING AND DISINFECTING**

Buildings and buses will be cleaned and disinfected on a regularly defined schedule. Staff will utilize disposal gloves when cleaning classroom materials (i.e., desks, toys, manipulatives). Students will be allowed to use playground equipment, and the equipment will be cleaned in between uses.

### **SYMPTOM SCREENING**

All staff, students, and visitors should self-certify before they enter any school district building.

Symptoms include moderate to severe headache, shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of taste or smell, fatigue from unknown cases, muscle, or body aches from unknown causes.

### **REPORTING STUDENT ABSENCES**

If your child is unable to attend school, it is more important than ever before to call in the absence to the school. The school secretary may take your information and a follow-up phone call from the school nurse may be deemed necessary.

Remember, if your child feels ill, please keep them at home.

### **QUARANTINE**

Per Vermilion County requirements, students identified as close contacts will need to quarantine unless they are fully vaccinated and remain asymptomatic or have had a lab-confirmed COVID-19 illness within the past 90 days. Fully vaccinated is being at least 14 days from receiving your second dose of a two-dose vaccine series or 14 days from the first/only dose of a one-dose vaccine.

While Danville District 118 does not require proof of vaccination, proof will be required for staff or students to avoid being quarantined. Two options for quarantine are available:

Option 1: (10 days after close contact)

Quarantine for 10 calendar days after the close contact's last exposure to the COVID-19 case. Date of last exposure is considered day 0.

- The individual may end quarantine after day 10 if no symptoms of COVID-19 developed during daily monitoring.
- SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing is recommended and may be required by the local health department.
- The individual can maintain physical distancing and masking at all times when returning to school; for classrooms where masking is strictly adhered to as required, physical distance of 3 to 6 feet is acceptable for return.

Option 2: (7 days after close contact)

Quarantine period is for seven calendar days after the last exposure if:

- No symptoms developed during daily monitoring AND the individual has a negative SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic test (PCR) that was collected within 48 hours of exposure day 7 (starting on day 6 or after).
  - The individual is responsible for obtaining a copy of the negative results for documentation purposes.
- The individual can maintain physical distancing and masking at all times when returning to school; for classrooms where masking is strictly adhered to as required, physical distance of 3 to 6 feet is acceptable for return.

*If you have been FULLY vaccinated and are asymptomatic but were exposed to someone who tested positive and a close contact, you DO NOT have to quarantine.*

*If you have NOT been FULLY vaccinated, then you would need to quarantine for 10 days if asymptomatic. If a person who is fully vaccinated tests positive, they still need to isolate and anyone who has been exposed to them who is not FULLY vaccinated will also need to quarantine.*

## **INSTRUCTION DURING QUARANTINE**

District 118 will return to pre-pandemic procedures for providing students with instruction while at home during a short-term illness. Teachers will utilize Google Classroom to post assignments, provide feedback, and respond to requests for support. Paper packets may be issued to younger students.

## **MEALS**

District 118 schools will consider using additional spaces for mealtime eating. While in the serving line for breakfast and lunch, the district has provided for as much physical space as possible between individuals.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Transportation is provided for students living greater than 1½ miles from their school. There is no capacity limit for buses.

Temperatures and symptom checks will not be performed as students enter the bus. Prior to leaving for school, parents must check the health of their child (**See Symptom Screening**).

Masks must be worn by all individuals on school buses, regardless of age, grade, or vaccination status.

Bus windows will be opened a few inches to allow air circulation.

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Prevention strategies in these activities remain important and should comply with school-day policies and procedures.

Transmission of COVID-19 is lower when playing outdoors than in indoor settings. Activities will be held outside when practical and possible.

Additional guidance will be provided prior to the start of each extra-curricular activity. Elementary and middle schools will follow the Illinois Elementary School Association's (IESA) guidance, whereas Danville High School will follow the Illinois High School Association's (IHSA) guidance.

For capacity limits, the district follows the Illinois Department of Public Health's guidance.

### **WECEP/JOB TRAINING/COMMUNITY OUTINGS/TRANSPORTING STUDENTS**

Masks are required during transportation of students. Windows should be open a few inches (if weather permits) to allow for ventilation.

Prevention strategies remain important and should comply with school-day policies and procedures, as-well-as the establishment's mitigations.



## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)**

### **1. Is remote learning an option for families?**

No, according to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), all schools must resume full in-person learning for all student attendance days.

District 118 will adhere to the ISBE resolution and provide a remote option to those students that qualify for the home hospital instruction per the Illinois School Code language.

### **2. My child was quarantined while attending in-person instruction. What can I expect regarding instruction during the 10-day quarantine period?**

District 118 will return to pre-pandemic procedures for providing students with instruction while at home during a short-term illness. Teachers will utilize Google classroom to post assignments, provide feedback, and respond to requests for support.

### **3. How are schools responding to the CDC's physical distancing for individuals in classrooms?**

District 118 schools will maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor masks, to reduce transmission risk. Because of the importance of in-person learning, schools will implement physical distancing to the extent possible within their structures (in addition to masking and other prevention strategies) but should not exclude students from in-person learning to keep a minimum distance requirement.

### **4. How are close contacts determined in school?**

Contact tracing is used by health departments to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. In general, contact tracing involves identifying people who have a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 (cases) and people who they came in contact with (close contacts) and working with them to interrupt disease spread. This includes asking people with COVID-19 to isolate and their contacts to quarantine at home voluntarily. Fully vaccinated persons who remain asymptomatic and those with documented COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days are excluded from quarantine.

In Illinois, contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine is required per Part 690 Control of Communicable Disease Code, Subpart I. Further, the Communicable Disease Code also requires mandatory reporting of any suspect, confirmed or probable case of COVID-19 to the local health department immediately (within 3 hours).

For teachers, staff and adults in the indoor K-12 classroom setting, CDC defines a close contact as an individual not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. According to the new CDC close contact definition, classroom students who were within 3 to 6 feet of the infected student are *not* treated as close contacts as long as both students were engaged in consistent and correct use of a well-fitting masks *and* other K-12 school prevention strategies (such as universal and correct mask use, physical distancing, increased ventilation) were in place in the K-12 setting. In other words, only classroom contacts within 3 feet require quarantine as long as both the case and the contact were consistently masked. If they were not

consistently masked, then close contacts are classroom students who were within 6 feet of the infected student for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

In exposures outside of the classroom, for staff and for students in the classroom where masks were not correctly and consistently worn by the infected person and/or the student, close contacts would be defined as individuals who are not fully vaccinated or who have not had lab-diagnosed COVID-19 within the last 90 days who were within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. In general, individuals who are solely exposed to a confirmed case while outdoors should not be considered close contacts.

The longer a person is exposed to an infected person, the higher the risk of exposure/transmission. The infectious period of close contact begins two calendar days before the onset of symptoms (for a symptomatic person) or two calendar days before the positive sample was obtained (for an asymptomatic person). If the case was symptomatic (e.g., coughing, sneezing), persons with briefer periods of exposure may also be considered contacts, as determined by local health departments. Persons who have had lab-confirmed COVID-19 within the past 90 days or those fully vaccinated who remain asymptomatic, according to CDC guidelines, are not required to quarantine if identified as a close contact to a confirmed case.

Local health departments are the final authority on identifying close contacts.

#### 5. How can schools determine what level of transmission is occurring in their community?

Schools can review data from the CDC or IDPH to find recent information on the number of new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population in the previous week. CDC defines community transmission as low, moderate, substantial, or high as follows:

	<b>Low Transmission</b>	<b>Moderate Transmission</b>	<b>Substantial Transition</b>	<b>High Transition</b>
Total new cases per 1000,000 persons in the past 7 days	0 – 9.99	10 – 49.99	50 – 99.99	≥ 100

Schools should contact their local health departments for more information and guidance to assess local public health conditions. To view this chart: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>

#### SOURCES (links)

<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Updated-Public-Health-School-Guidance.pdf>

<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/ISBE-IDPH-School-FAQs-20210809.pdf>

<https://dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/All%20Sports%20Policy%2020210810.pdf>