

# Roselle SD12 Return to Learn Plan 2021-22 Roselle Middle School

\*This guide is meant to provide detailed and comprehensive information about our return to school for the 2021-22 school year and is current as of **August 10, 2021**. It will adapt and change as guidance changes.

Updated August, 2021

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Updated August, 2021

#### Mask Requirements

On Wednesday, August 4, Governor Pritzker issued an <u>executive order</u> mandating universal masking for all staff, students, and visitors in all PK-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status. This requirement is for indoors when an individual is not eating.

We do not anticipate that this mask requirement will last for the full school year; however, there was no time limit identified in the executive order. When the executive order is lifted, we will look for opportunities for masks to be optional for students who have had the opportunity to become fully vaccinated.

Students do not need to wear a mask outside for breaks, recess, or anytime a teacher has students learning outside.

All students should keep several masks in their backpacks as students often need to change masks throughout the day due to becoming wet and/or dirty. Students who forget a mask will be provided with a disposable one.

Face masks should be made of two or more layers and must fit snugly around the sides and completely cover the mouth and nose. Please note that "gaitors" do not meet the guidelines for masks and may not be used at school.

### **Daily Certification of Symptoms**

Parents are asked to verify that their child is free of symptoms that can be indicative of COVID-19 each day. All students will be provided with a lanyard and badge holder that will hold the daily certification ticket shown below. Parents must sign the ticket each day. *Students will not be allowed to get on a bus without their daily ticket, and staff will check students who walk or are dropped off at school to ensure that they have their ticket before they enter the building.* 

Symptoms that require students to stay home:Fever and/or chillsNew coughShortness of breathNew loss of taste or smellFatigue from unknown causeSore throatNew onset of moderate headacheVomitingMuscle or body achesDiarrhea

Students who exhibit a symptom or symptoms of COVID-19 may not come to school. Parents have three options for their child to return to school:

- 1. A parent may take their child to their healthcare provider and provide a doctor's note indicating an alternative diagnosis or a negative COVID-19 test.
- 2. A parent may choose not to take their child to a doctor and not test for COVID-19. In this case, the child must quarantine for 10 (ten) days.
- 3. A parent may bring their child to the health office at their school for a COVID-19 test. The district is securing a contract with a vendor to provide, free of charge, a Binax test. This will be a nasal swab, conducted by district nursing staff, that provides results in 15 minutes. If the result is negative, the child may go to the classroom and does not have to quarantine.

### COVID-19 Testing

The district will be contracting with a vendor to provide two types of testing: saliva PCR test and a rapid nasal swab. The use of each of these tests is outlined below:

• Saliva PCR test: At this time we will *not* be screening all students on a regular basis. We will, however, require a weekly saliva test for any student participating in optional, extracurricular activities. This is free of charge and will be done at school. Extracurricular activities are a time when students are mixing with students across multiple grades and classrooms and this testing provides an additional layer of protection.

Rapid nasal swab: The purpose of this test is to minimize episodes of quarantine for our students. The parents of a student who exhibits a symptom at home or who develops a symptom at school will have the *option* of having this done. *Results are available in 15 minutes and, if negative, would allow the student as well as any siblings to remain in school.* If a parent prefers that this test not be done, quarantine protocols will need to be followed.

\*In school testing will not be available at the start of the school year. It takes a few weeks to get established and staff trained. Specific, detailed information will be shared with all parents before testing begins so that you are able to make informed choices for your family.

## <u>Bus</u>

Bus transportation will resume to pre-pandemic levels of capacity. All students and adults on a bus must wear a mask at all times, regardless of vaccination status. Bus windows will be kept lowered as weather permits to increase air circulation. Bus monitors will be on all morning routes to ensure that students have their daily certification tickets prior to boarding the bus. *If a student does not have their ticket, they will not be allowed on the bus. Also, if a student does not have a mask at the bus stop, a disposable mask will be offered. However, if a student refuses to wear a mask, they will not be allowed to board the bus.* For this reason, parents are encouraged to remain at the bus stop, particularly with elementary students.

Due to the removal of capacity limits, students who do not qualify for free transportation are able to pay for transportation as in years past.

### **Isolation and Quarantine**

Isolation refers to the period of time an individual needs to be out of school when he/she has been identified as having COVID-19. Anyone identified as having COVID-19 must remain out of school for a period of ten days and must also be fever-free without the use of any fever-reducing medication for at least 24 hours.

Quarantine refers to the period of time when an individual needs to be out of school when he/she has been identified as being a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case or exhibits a symptom that could indicate someone has COVID-19. Quarantine time requirements have changed throughout the course of the pandemic. Current guidance for quarantine after close contact or exhibiting symptoms is 10 days.

If a student is quarantined due to having symptoms, he/she may be released early with either an alternative diagnosis from a doctor or a negative test result. For more information, see <u>COVID-19 testing</u>.

If a student is identified as a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case and **both people were wearing a mask**, the close contact does not need to quarantine according to ISBE (Illinois State Board of Education) August, 2021 *Revised Public Health Guidelines for Schools*. Therefore, during the period of the governor's executive order, students and staff will not need to quarantine if identified as a close contact in school. This only applies to the school setting, and all students will need to quarantine if a member of the household is identified as having COVID-19 (10 days).

Updates on quarantine protocols will be provided when the governor's executive order on masking in school ends or at any time guidance changes.

### Arrival at School

Roselle Middle School students may begin to enter the building at 7:30 a.m. each day. Staff will be outside to ensure that students have their daily certification ticket. When students arrive they will go to their locker and then report to their start-of-day classroom.

If a student arrives to school without their daily certification ticket, they will be escorted to the office until a parent can be reached.

### <u>Lockers</u>

Students will be using lockers in a limited capacity this year. When students arrive at school they may put any belongings that will not be needed throughout the school day in their locker. Everything a student needs for the school day will be kept with them, and students will be allowed to carry a backpack. Students may return to their lockers at the end of the day to leave anything that doesn't need to go home and to retrieve anything in their locker. If a student carries a cell phone to school, it should be kept turned off and in his/her locker. Due to this limited use, we will not be encouraging or providing time for locker decoration.

## <u>Mask Breaks</u>

Students will be provided with mask breaks throughout the day. In particular, mask breaks will be taken during each of the academic blocks. Once outside for a mask break, students will be able to remove their masks. Mask breaks continue during the winter, as long as temperature (with wind chill) allows.

If weather is inclement, students will have short mask breaks at their desk.

### Lunch/Recess

In order to maintain a safe environment inside when students are eating, distancing of at least three feet with students facing the same direction will be used. Due to space limitations, students will be split between the cafeteria and the media center at RMS.

When students are outside for recess, masks do not need to be worn. If recess is indoors due to weather, masks will need to be worn.

#### End of Day Procedures

Students' dismissal at the end of the day will be staggered in order to minimize congestion at lockers and in the halls.

#### <u>Travel</u>

There are not specific requirements for quarantine after travel at this time. If families are traveling to a private home by car, no additional action is needed. If families are traveling by plane, staying in hotels and dining in restaurants, attending out of town tournaments, we ask that your child take a COVID-19 test upon return to minimize any chance of exposure of other students and staff. Once testing is taking place at school, this can be done at the start of a school day, and if the test is negative, there is no need for the student to miss school.

## Classroom/Building Cleaning Protocols

An "Enhanced Cleaning" program has been developed by our third-party custodial service in alignment with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Illinois Department of Public Health. Cleaning each classroom will include the normal processes of sweeping, mopping, etc. For disinfection, the district will use products recommended by the Environmental Protection Agency on a daily basis. The focus will be on surfaces that are touched by students and staff with high frequency (handles, hard surfaces, etc.) which will happen in an ongoing manner throughout the day. A more broad disinfecting process will be used as well.

Using an electrostatic sprayer will be employed to quickly and easily provide superior coverage in even the most hard-to-reach spaces. Electrostatic sprayers will be able to attack surfaces that are outside the line of sight, including the sides, undersides, and backsides of surfaces that would be missed with normal cleaning procedures. These sprayers are not meant to be used every day because that type of buildup would lead to a chemical residue. This will be done routinely on Wednesdays and any time a class needs to move out due to exposure. <u>What Chemicals are in the Cleaning/Disinfection Materials</u> District staff will be regularly using the following products:

- Oxivir 1 (active ingredient: hydrogen peroxide)
- Virex II/64 (active ingredient: quaternary ammonium)
- Clorox 360 Disinfectant Cleaner (active ingredients: alkyl, dimethyl benzyl ammonium chlorides, alkyl dimethyl, ethylbenzyl ammonium chlorides)

Oxivir 1 and Virex II/64 are being employed for regular use on hard surfaces (counters, desks, washrooms, etc.). Clorox 360 will be used with electrostatic sprayers to offer more complete sanitization of classrooms and other spaces.

## <u>Visitors</u>

Visitors to the school will be limited to essential people and purposes only. All visitors will be required to comply with all COVID-19 mitigation strategies including masking.

At this time, visitors will not be in the building for the following:

- Visits
- Volunteer work
- Shops (Ex: Holiday Shop, Bookdrives)
- Watch D.O.G.S.
- Lunch with students

Meetings with school staff, including IEP meetings and parent/teacher conferences will be conducted virtually to the greatest extent possible.

## Teacher Assignment

Families may log into Skyward on Friday, August 13, beginning at 3:00 p.m. to see their schedule. Students will report to their WIN period on the first day of school for their locker assignments.

## Beep and Greet

In order to minimize crowds in our school, we will once again have a drive-through "Beep and Greet" on Tuesday, August 17. On Monday evening, August 16, families will receive introductory videos from the teaching staff. During the beep and greet, students will have the opportunity to meet their teachers and pick up their daily certification tickets and lanyard.

The schedule for Roselle Middle School is as follows:

6th grade: 9-9:45 a.m.

7th grade: 10-10:45

8th grade: 11-11:45

Please enter the school parking lot from Prospect. All participants must be in cars; no walk ups allowed.

## Getting to Know the Building

As we have planned for the start of the 2021-22 school year, we recognize that none of our students in grades 6-8 have had a full "typical" year in our

school with some of our seventh graders yet to attend middle school in person. To that end, we will be approaching the start of the year with a reboot to middle school. The first week of school will be orienting all students to the building and creating a sense of community for all.

## Curriculum Night

Curriculum Night will be held virtually on August 31 for Roselle Middle School. Teachers will have pre-recorded presentations but also will have an open Google Meet for parents to join and ask questions. Please look for additional information to come from the school.

## Parent/Teacher Conferences

Teachers will schedule conferences with parents throughout the second half of October and November. These will be held virtually. Teachers will provide details and sign up information after the start of the school year.

## <u>Classroom set-up</u>

Our learning spaces are designed to ensure 3 foot social distancing. Small group instruction and interventions will take place in learning spaces while following distancing guidelines. Small group instruction may occur in outside classroom spaces to allow for more mask breaks and peer interactions.

## Student supports (EL, Special Education, Interventions)

Support services are decided using data from assessments, individualized education plans, and best practices in second language support. Individual and small group services will be provided in person with 3 foot social distancing. The use of outdoor learning spaces will be encouraged to provide opportunities for small group learning without masks.

## Social-Emotional Learning

We know that social and emotional learning (SEL) will be critical to re-engaging students, supporting adults, rebuilding relationships, and creating a foundation for academic learning. The COVID-19 pandemic and current cultural events impacting society has underscored SEL as an essential part of high-quality education—highlighting our relationships, resiliency, and collective problem-solving as fundamental to teaching and learning.

Systems and protocols for monitoring the emotional wellbeing of students will be used. Ongoing SEL check-ins will be incorporated into classroom routines to increase the awareness of students' changing emotional wellness. Access to social workers is available for all students. SEL activities, and executive functioning skills will be incorporated into classroom instruction.

Parents with specific social-emotional concerns about their child should contact Mrs. Meyer, school social worker, at <u>gmeyer@sd12.org</u>.

#### PE/Art/Music

When possible, Physical Education classes will be outdoors so face coverings can be removed while 3 foot distancing is maintained. Students will be using their PE uniform and gym lockers at times throughout the year. Fees for PE uniforms and gym lock can be added through optional fees.

Art classes will adhere to sanitary practices with consumables such as hand washing and cleaning surfaces when needed. Music classes will be outside as much as possible, weather permitting. Students at Roselle Middle School will move to the Art and Music classrooms.

#### <u>Band</u>

Band-related courses will be outside as much as possible. Students should sanitize hands prior to, and following the handling of instruments.

#### Instruction During Periods of Quarantine/Isolation

If a student is at home for ten days due to a period of quarantine or isolation, he/she will receive daily support from his/her teacher(s). Students will not be on their device for the entire day but will be supported by their teachers. More details will be shared with families at the start of the school year.

## **Extracurricular Activities**

We are planning to bring back sports and clubs. Participants in indoor sports require a mask at this time. Participants in outdoor sports do not need to wear a mask when outside.

When COVID-19 testing is able to be conducted at school, all participants in any extracurricular activities will be *required* to test weekly using the PCR saliva test. There is no charge for these tests.