



FENTON RETURN TO LEARN STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

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Introduction	1
Prevention and Safety	2
Masking Guidelines	2
Instruction, Transportation, Food Service, and Extracurricular Information	3
COVID-19 Self Certification	5
Isolation	5
Management of Ill Students	6
Safety and Follow-up Guidelines for Potential or Suspected COVID Cases	7
Contact Tracing	8
Conclusion	8

Introduction

This guidance document outlines policies, procedures, and safety measures being followed for the 2022-2023 school year. This is a “living document” and as such, sections may be added or updated as needed due to new information from the Illinois State Board of Education, Illinois Department of Public Health, or local health departments. Stakeholders will be notified of any changes, and dates will be added to sections of the document where changes are made.

An Important Note for Parents and Students: In the event a parent/student repeatedly does not adhere to guidelines, terms, conditions, or expectations, the student could be reassigned to virtual learning for the remainder of the school year. This may also occur if an egregious act occurs which may jeopardize the health, safety, and welfare of others. An example of this would be if a student knowingly was in contact with someone who is positive or with a household member under assessment, and the student attends school in person.

Prevention and Safety

Families are responsible for ensuring students do not attend school while sick. If a student feels sick with a fever or has any covid related symptoms, or if you have been in contact with someone confirmed with COVID-19, PLEASE DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL.

It is imperative that you contact your healthcare provider immediately and notify them of your symptoms. Your health care provider will determine if you need to be seen in the office and if so, will provide special instructions to prevent exposing others. If this applies to you, contact the school nurse, Jill Wisnewski, at 630-860-4941 or wisnewski@fenton100.org to follow isolation and quarantine procedures.

The overall consensus from health officials is to: be aware, prepare, practice healthy habits, and stay informed. As preventive measures, health officials are reminding us to

- wear a mask,
- wash your hands often,
- exercise social distancing (at least 3 feet apart) whenever and wherever possible,
- avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands,
- avoid contact with sick people,
- stay home if you are sick,
- cover mouth and nose with tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing, and
- clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Hand sanitizer is available at various locations around the building and in classrooms, as is an extra supply of safety items (i.e., masks, gloves, face shields and hand sanitizer).

Masking Guidelines

Masks are recommended but not required to be worn indoors by all staff, students, and visitors. In general, masks do **not** need to be worn outdoors.

Instruction, Transportation, Food Service, and Extracurricular Information

Instruction and Bell Schedule

- ❑ Instruction will be in person. The typical daily bell schedule will be followed. It should be noted that Mondays will be a 10:00am late start for students.

Music Classes

- ❑ Music classes will incorporate instructional activities that can be done safely to minimize the spread of particles.
- ❑ Each student who plays a wind instrument in the band program has their own wind instrument to use (there will be no sharing of wind instruments).
- ❑ The district will provide guidance on appropriate conditions for singing and playing wind instruments, along with other instructional activities for music classes.
- ❑ Each band and choir student **will be recommended but not required** to wear and use appropriate PPE including school-supplied reusable and washable singer's masks, instrumentalist masks, and bell covers.
- ❑ Instrument storage areas will be accessed on a rotating basis to ensure social distancing, and cannot be used to store any personal items other than music instruments.
- ❑ Music stands, percussion instruments, guitars, pianos, and other shared equipment will be cleaned between each student group and will be personal to an individual student while in use.

Lab Classes (Applied Tech, Family Consumer Science, Science, and Visual Art)

- ❑ Supplies, media, and equipment use will be limited to consumables or individual use.
- ❑ If shared equipment is used, it must be personal to an individual student while in use, and sanitized before and after use with the district approved cleaning solution.
- ❑ Materials will be placed in such a way as to minimize movement around the room.

Hallway, PE, and Athletic Lockers

- ❑ Hallway, PE, and athletic lockers will be used. Students will be allowed to bring coats and backpacks to class and those items should be stored as directed by the teacher. Students should leave valuables at home to prevent them from being lost or damaged.

Physical Education

- ❑ All students will participate in their physical education classes as locker rooms will be available for students to change clothes.

Transportation

- ❑ It is recommended but not required that masks must be worn at all times by students and staff, masks will be provided if a student wants a mask.
- ❑ Students and staff will have access to hand sanitizers on buses.
- ❑ Eating and drinking are not allowed on buses.
- ❑ The bus will be loaded starting from the back to the front, and will unload starting from the front to the back.
- ❑ Staff will wipe down hand railings and seats with disinfectant between routes.
- ❑ Staff will use a medical-grade disinfectant and electrostatic sprayer before the PM routes take place, and following the PM routes' completion, to ensure the busses are clean for the next morning's routes.

Breakfast / Lunch

- ❑ Breakfast and lunch will occur as usual with cafeteria seating expanding into the commons area and courtyard as needed

Athletics and Activities

- ❑ Students may participate in after school athletics and competitions following IHSA bylaws, local health department approval, and assurance that all safety protocols are followed. The district will host competitive sports so long as the state allows. IHSA Guidelines can be found online.
- ❑ Fenton will be hosting in-person events
- ❑ The district will adhere to the IDPH, ISBE, and IHSA guidance on extracurricular events and activities. Please note that these restrictions may vary by activity and season throughout the year.

Theatre and Music Performances

- ❑ The school district will continue to work to ensure that our students have the opportunity to participate in live performance opportunities to the greatest extent possible. When students perform in-person, we are committed to ensuring that we can do so safely.

COVID-19 Self Certification

A COVID-19 self certification is a test/survey that is done to detect potential health disorders or diseases in their early stages. The Certification Tool below outlines COVID-19 situations and symptoms that parents should look for with their students.

Certification Tool (revised 09-02-2020): [Click here to view.](#)

- ❑ Parent/or guardian will sign off on a one time health screening acknowledgement to take responsibility for their students health throughout the school year: [self certification agreement](#). **It is imperative that the parent or guardian monitor their students health on a daily basis and keep their student home if they are sick with any covid like symptoms and communicate with the school.**

Isolation

Isolation separates individuals who are infected with a contagion away from those who are not. Any individual with symptoms of COVID-19, or a confirmed/probable case in the building, needs to be isolated immediately. A classroom has been designated as an isolation room and secondary health office and is to be used for suspected COVID-19 cases only. The health office will be used for non-COVID-19 related healthcare of students and staff as needed.

- ❑ **Under no circumstances is an individual to enter the isolation room or health office until the health office has been contacted.** Health office staff need time to triage, prepare the isolation room and don proper personal protective equipment (PPE).
- ❑ Individuals with COVID-19 symptoms or confirmed/probable cases will be placed in the isolation room, socially distanced, assessed by RN, and required to wear a mask and wash/sanitize their hands.
- ❑ The RN will contact the parents of the student, and request that they be picked up immediately. The family will be informed to call the health office when they are in the parking lot and the student will be escorted out door 33.
- ❑ All students and parents will be strongly encouraged to contact their healthcare provider as soon as possible. A COVID-19 information packet will be provided to students and staff.
- ❑ Emergency medical services will be activated for any individual who is in distress or requires immediate emergency care.

Management of Ill Students

- ❑ The Health Office will contact the COVID-positive individual or family to complete the investigation and conduct contact tracing to identify close contacts to the case (persons within 6 feet, for at least 15 minutes cumulatively while the individual was infectious).
- ❑ If the COVID-positive individual was in the school during their infectious period, i.e., from 48 hours prior to symptom onset (for a symptomatic person) or, 48 hours before specimen collection (for an asymptomatic person) through the date of last attendance, areas used by the individual should be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly according to CDC guidelines.
- ❑ The school will notify students and parents while maintaining confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The notification will be sent as soon as possible and include information on symptom monitoring, what to do if symptoms develop, COVID-19 prevention strategies, and information on what the school is doing in response to the positive case.
- ❑ The COVID-positive individual, regardless of vaccination status, must do the following:
 - ❑ Stay home for a minimum of five days and a maximum of 10 days after the first day of symptoms or the specimen collection date from positive viral test for asymptomatic persons.
 - ❑ Individuals may return to school after five days if asymptomatic or if fever-free without fever reducing medication for 24 hours, diarrhea/vomiting have ceased for 24 hours, and other symptoms have improved. A form will be issued by the health office to sign off on return.
 - ❑ Continue to wear a mask around others for the second five days after returning to school.
 - ❑ Individuals should distance 6 feet from other individuals when eating during lunch time and mask after eating lunch during the second five days of returning to school.
 - ❑ Individuals in IHSA sports and activities can participate during the second five days of returning to school if the student has been cleared to return.

Safety and Follow-up Guidelines for Potential or Suspected COVID Cases

- ❑ Based on clinical assessments and when possible, the sick individual should be tested for COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses, where indicated. Depending on the severity of illness sick individuals will be:
 - ❑ safely transported home as soon as possible, or
 - ❑ safely transported by a parent or guardian to a healthcare facility for clinical evaluation and testing, if necessary.
- ❑ Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, must immediately be excluded from school until:
 - Receiving a negative PCR test result that confirms the symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19; or
 - For a minimum of five days and a maximum of 10 days until fever free without fever reducing medication for 24 hours, diarrhea/vomiting have ceased for 24 hours, and other symptoms have improved. A form will be issued by the health office to sign off on return.
 - Continue to wear a mask around others for the second five days after returning to school.
 - Individuals should distance 6 feet from other individuals when eating during lunch time and mask after eating lunch, during the second five days of returning to school.
 - Individuals in IHSA sports and activities can participate during the second five days of returning to school if cleared to return.
 - Those testing positive should be excluded from school and follow guidance for persons testing positive.
- ❑ If they test COVID-positive, refer to the section, “Procedures for Students who Test Positive.”
- ❑ If testing is not performed due to the clinical judgment of the healthcare provider, a medical note is needed to return to school/day care documenting that there is no clinical suspicion for COVID-19 infection and indicate an alternative diagnosis with exclusion consistent with this diagnosis, e.g., 24 hours afebrile.
- ❑ All areas used by the sick individual should be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly according to CDC guidelines.

Contact Tracing

Contact tracing helps slow the spread of disease by identifying individuals who have come in close contact with a person who has a confirmed or probable case of Covid 19. All schools are required to assist the LHD with contact tracing as soon as possible after a confirmed/probable case of Covid-19 has been identified. Contact tracing will be conducted as directed by the LHD & Illinois Department of Public Health:

- Administration will notify RN of any confirmed/probable case immediately and provide the name of the individual.
- RN will contact the individual and request the following information to report to LHD:
 - Name
 - Date of birth
 - Address
 - Phone number
 - Date of first symptoms
 - Parent/Guardian if a minor
 - Additional information as requested by LHD
- Parents/guardians and students must cooperate with the LHD for purposes of conducting contact tracing or any outbreak pursuant to the Control of Communicable Disease Code, 77 Illinois Administrative Code 690.
- School personnel will inform the LHDs about possible exposures within the school, including transportation, classroom, common areas and extracurricular activities. Schools should designate a person for this role and have them available after hours.
- The Superintendent's Office will initiate communication procedures regarding a confirmed or probable case in the district.

Conclusion

Thank you for following these guidelines and there will be updates as needed. If you have questions please contact the school at 630-860-6259 or bentsen@fenton100.org.

Dr. Sam Bentsen