

# **Big Hollow School District 38**

## **Return to School Learning Plan 2022-2023**



## **Instructional Planning**

BHSD38 is in full capacity, in-person learning for the 2022-23 school year. We look forward to 100% in-person teaching and learning for the year, with the minor exception of required exclusion for COVID-19 positive cases. We will remain responsive to regulatory guidance, local health metrics, and will inform families if changes are needed to our learning plans.

The Return to School Learning Plan reflects guidance from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Illinois Department of Public Health, and Illinois State Board of Education as follows:

[Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person Learning](#)

[IDPH & ISBE Joint Summary of CDC's Operational Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in Schools](#)

### **Highlights:**

- Full capacity, in-person learning
- All students shall be physically present in the school building.
- Masks are optional, both in school and on school transportation.
- The District will not conduct contact tracing. When possible, we will provide notification to individuals identified as close contacts.
- Individuals that test positive for COVID-19 or who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms must be excluded from school for 5 calendar days from onset of symptoms. Masks are recommended upon a return to school on days 6 through 10.
- For students who are excluded from school due to being positive for COVID-19, remote work will be made available for students to complete if they are well enough to do so, similar to all other times when students are out due to illness. Specific instructions regarding the completion of work will be provided by your child's teacher(s).
- Individuals in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 but do not have COVID-19 symptoms do not need to quarantine.
- Screening testing (if tests can be secured), enhanced ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, required isolation for COVID-19 positive individuals, and cleaning and disinfection strategies will be in effect.
- The District will provide vaccination clinics, when possible.

The District has developed multiple instructional plans for potential implementation should an alternate form of learning be required locally or by the State. Those alternate plans will be shared, if it becomes necessary, including how services would be provided to address academic, social and emotional health.

## **Layered Mitigation Strategies**

The following layered mitigation strategies will be in effect:

### **Isolation / Quarantine:**

- The District will identify positive cases and take appropriate isolation measures, in partnership with the local health department.
- The District shall report positive cases to the local health department, as required.
- The District may notify individuals identified as close contacts.
- Individuals in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 but do NOT have COVID-19 symptoms do not need to quarantine, but screening is recommended 3-5 days after potential exposure.

### **Face Coverings:**

- Masks are optional, both in school and on school transportation.

### **Hand Hygiene:**

- Students and staff must practice good hand hygiene, including washing hands frequently for 20 seconds or using hand sanitizer when washing is not available. There will be hand sanitizer stationed around the building for staff and student use. Students should also carry a personal supply of hand sanitizer to ensure constant access.

### **Health Checks and Illness:**

- Health checks are not required.
- Persons should not report to school if they have any currently known [symptoms of COVID-19](#), or they are positive for COVID-19.
- Any individual presenting with COVID-19 symptoms will be moved to an isolation area and assessed by the school nurse or qualified professional, including the administration of a rapid antigen test, if consent is provided. If necessary, a parent or guardian may be requested to immediately pick up a student.
- Students or staff members who test positive will not be allowed to return to school until CDC/IDPH/LCHD standards for recovery have been met.
- When possible, the school will notify families if a student was potentially exposed to COVID-19 in the school setting.
- PCR and antigen testing will be available as an additional mitigation measure for symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals, as long as testing supplies are available to BHSD38.

**Sanitation:**

- Schools will be cleaned and sanitized every day, including regular use of electrostatic sprayers in learning spaces.
- Classrooms will have ample disinfectant for use throughout the day.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building for staff and student use.

**Screening Testing:**

- The District will continue to offer free COVID-19 testing for diagnostic testing and screening testing according to CDC's testing recommendation (as long as testing supplies can be secured).
- Parent consent is needed for student testing. Click [HERE](#) to complete the initial registration information.

**Ventilation:**

- Enhanced ventilation practices are in effect.

**Practices and Procedures**

**Academics:**

- Traditional academic practices and grading procedures will be in effect for the 2022-2023 school year. Specifics of these practices and procedures are detailed in the Curriculum Guide, Student Handbook, and individual course syllabi.
- The traditional academic calendar will be followed in regards to reporting student grades, progress reporting periods.

**Athletics & Activities:**

- Athletics and activities will take place normally. It may, at times, be necessary to comply with health and safety procedures set forth by IDPH, IESA, and BHSD38.
- Students must meet eligibility requirements for participation.
- Activities may be paused at any time by directive, illness or other.

**Attendance Expectations:**

- All students are expected to attend in-person daily.
- Normal attendance policies will be in effect for the 2022-2023 school year. If students will not be attending classes as scheduled, parents/guardians must contact the school office to report the absence.

**Cafeteria:**

- The flexibility the District had to provide free meals during COVID has expired. This means there will be a return to free, reduced, and paid eligibility for students for the 2022-2023 school year.

**Field Trips:**

- Field trips may be limited, when necessary due to regulatory guidance and/or health metrics.

**Lockers:**

- Normal use of lockers is permitted.

**Remote Instruction during Required Exclusion:**

- Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 or who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms must be excluded from school for 5 calendar days from onset of symptoms. For students who are excluded from school due to being positive for COVID-19, remote work will be made available for students to complete if they are well enough to do so, similar to all other times when students are out due to illness. Specific instructions regarding the completion of work will be provided by your child's teacher(s).
- The needs of students in special populations, including students who receive special education services and/or homeless students, will be met on an individual basis.

**Transportation:**

- School buses will operate at normal capacity.
- Masks are optional on school transportation.

**Visitors:**

- For individuals that need to visit campus, all safety protocols in place for staff and students shall be followed.
- All visitors shall enter through the main office in each building.