

**BRIMFIELD CUSD #309  
SCHOOL YEAR 2021-  
2022 GUIDANCE  
DOCUMENT**



**ADOPTED BY THE BRIMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION –  
FEBRUARY 7, 2022**

**\*ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION ALTERATION – FEBRUARY 16, 2022\*  
THIS PLAN IS REVIEWED AND UPDATED, IF NECESSARY, NO LESS THAN  
EVERY SIX MONTHS. Phone calls, emails, and texts are sent to families. Board  
meetings (both regular and special) provided the public with opportunities to comment  
and give input. The district will continue to ask for comment at Board meetings  
monthly.- ADDED 1/27/23**

***SCHOOL YEAR GUIDANCE MAY CHANGE  
THROUGHOUT THE YEAR BASED ON CDC, ISBE, AND  
IDPH GUIDELINES. THIS IS A WORKING DOCUMENT  
AND MAY BE REVISED THROUGHOUT THE 2021-2022  
SCHOOL YEAR.***

## **2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR GUIDANCE**

### **REMOTE LEARNING**

For the 2021-2022 school year, we want every family to send their child(ren) back to school for in-person learning. Studies show that students, particularly students who struggle academically, learn better while in-person alongside their teachers. Furthermore, reconnecting with teachers and peers in person is essential for students' mental health and social-emotional development. According to the ISBE resolution, school districts must provide remote learning only for students who are BOTH ineligible for a COVID-19 vaccine and under quarantine. Remote learning will be provided to all students under quarantine.

### **QUARANTINE & CONTACT TRACING**

Asymptomatic students and staff will not quarantine if exposed to positive case. Parents of students in close contact will be notified that their student was near a student or staff member who tested positive. Length of quarantines for student and staff will be determined based on current IDPH guidance in consultation with the local health department. Asymptomatic students and staff are encouraged to monitor for symptoms.

Families will want to monitor for any emerging COVID-19 symptoms. Positive cases will fall subject to the IDPH guidance. The district's **MITIGATION LEVEL** will also affect the course of action for your student (see mitigation levels on the final page). We are asking for partnership with families to screen their children for symptoms before sending them to school daily.

Students who have to quarantine will need to follow each classroom teacher's policies and procedures in order to access instruction and materials. Summative assessments (Ex. tests, quizzes) may be available during the quarantine.

### **MASKS**

Masking recommendations in the District will be based on the mitigation levels found at the end of this Return to School Plan.

### **RETURN TO TRADITIONAL BELL SCHEDULE**

For the 2021-2022 school year, Brimfield CUSD #309 schools will all return to the traditional bell schedule, with school beginning at 8:00 am and dismissing at 3:05 pm.

## **STARTING THE SCHOOL DAY**

All students, pre-K through grade twelve, will continue to go to their classroom/first-hour class upon arrival to school. There will not be any mass congregation in gymnasiums or other common spaces before the school day begins. Doors will open at 7:45 A.M.

## **LUNCH AND TRANSPORTATION**

Students will resume eating in the cafeteria during the 2021-2022 school year. Students will be socially distanced to the greatest extent possible.

Bus transportation will resume normal operation. Students will be socially distanced to the greatest extent possible. **Masks must be worn on school busses per the Centers for Disease Control.**

## **LOCKERS & DRINKING FOUNTAINS**

For the 2021-2022 school year, the use of lockers and drinking fountains at all building levels will resume.

## **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & SPECIAL COURSES**

Enrolled students not receiving in-person instruction will not be eligible to participate in extracurricular athletics and activities.

**Quarantining or symptomatic** students will not be able to participate in any extracurricular or on-site activities until they return to in-person learning.

## **BAND & CHOIR**

Music programs will resume regular programming for the 2021-2022 school year. This will include competitions (as available), concerts, and programs. After-school programming or meetings related to music may continue to take place indoors and parents will be able to attend as it is after school hours.

## **FIELD TRIPS & ASSEMBLIES**

Field trips that align with instructional outcomes and/or are an extension of the learning environment will be permitted during the 2021- 2022 school year.

All-school assemblies will not be permitted until vaccines are available for all students.

## MITIGATION LEVELS

The Mitigation Levels outline how our day-to-day operations will function over the coming school year. Please note that changes in our mitigation levels will be dependent upon the bi-weekly analysis of positive COVID-19 cases as reported by the Covid Dashboard maintained by Northwestern University. The analysis will take into account the available data for zip codes in the Brimfield area, specifically 61517, 61528, and 61529.

In all mitigation levels, the district will promote proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette, continuing to clean and maintain healthy facilities, including addressing any ventilation needs if they arise, possibly continuing to serve as a host for optional vaccination clinics and provide information where vaccinations can be obtained, and accommodating students with disabilities.

The following metrics will be used to determine the positivity rate: the average of the last 7 days of the 7-day rolling average number of cases.

### Mitigation Level 1 - **Minimal**

*Positivity rate of less than 20 cases according to the above calculations.*

Masks recommended if closer than 3 feet for more than 15 minutes.

Quarantines for students/staff per local health department directive.

Implement remote learning for classes, grade level, or building if needed.

### Mitigation Level 2 - **Moderate**

*Positivity rate of 20-39 cases according to the above calculations.*

Masks recommended if closer than 3 feet for more than 15 minutes for students and staff.

Quarantines for students/staff per local health department directive.

Implement remote learning for classes, grade level, or building if needed.

Field trips, assemblies, and some programs may be cancelled or postponed.

### Mitigation Level 3 - **Substantial**

*Positivity rate of more than 40 cases according to the above calculations.*

Masks recommended for all students and staff at all times.

Temperature screening required for entry.

Quarantines for students/staff per local health department directive.

Implement remote learning for classes, grade level, or building if needed.

Field trips, assemblies, and some programs will be cancelled or postponed.