

Rantoul Township High School Mitigating Procedures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 for the 2022-2023 School Year

The Center for Disease Control (CDC), along with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) have suggested that schools develop a layered approach in regard to their mitigating procedures for this upcoming school year. We will coordinate with our local and state health officials to determine community levels and appropriate prevention strategies. As schools go through the year and monitor the number of COVID cases, they may decide to remove procedures one at a time and then monitor the effect of that. These procedures will be in place so that we can return to fully in-person learning to appropriately address students' academic, social, emotional and mental health needs. For the start of the 2022-2023 school year, these are the mitigating procedures that RTHS will follow:

1. **Encouraging Sick Individuals to Stay Home** – If your child is sick, please keep them at home. We have discontinued incentive programs that we had for both staff and students for perfect attendance. Students who show symptoms at school will be required to go home.
2. **Cleaning and Disinfecting** – We will continue to disinfect highly used areas and equipment, especially in between classes. In addition to the normal cleaning and disinfecting throughout the day, the entire building will be disinfected using e-sprayers in the evening and on the weekends. There are hand sanitizing stations located throughout the building. Buses will be disinfected on a daily basis.
3. **Ventilation** – Our ventilation system pulls outside air into the building, which is the recommendation from the CDC. This helps keep virus particles from concentrating inside. We are looking at HVAC systems for the main gym to improve the air quality in that area.
4. **Hand and Respiratory Hygiene** – Students and staff should practice handwashing and respiratory etiquette to keep from getting and spreading infectious illnesses. Signs will be posted in appropriate areas to remind everyone of these procedures.
5. **Promoting Vaccinations** – According to the CDC, achieving high levels of COVID-19 vaccination among staff, students, and household members is one of the most critical strategies to help schools safely continue full operations. In addition to receiving the first dose of the vaccination, the CDC recommends receiving boosters when able to do so.
6. **Illness Testing** - Parents will have the option to either consent to or refuse this type of testing. This is the BINAX NOW test and is given if a student becomes symptomatic at school. This test will give us nearly immediate results if a student is positive or not.
7. **Social Distancing** - The recommendation is to drop the social distancing from 6 feet to 3 feet. For the most part this will be feasible in most of the classrooms. The 6 foot standard is still recommended for unvaccinated staff and students. This recommendation is made as long as it is not an obstacle to in-person learning. We will follow the social distancing recommendations where feasible and where it is not an obstacle to in-person learning. This will not be possible in all of our classrooms, so it will be important to layer other mitigation procedures. It will also be very difficult for us to socially distance during the lunch hours. With

that being an issue, we will have open campus available for most of our students. Juniors and Seniors will automatically earn the open campus privilege as long as they demonstrate they can use it responsibly. Sophomores will have to earn the open campus privilege through grades, attendance, and behavior. Freshman will not be allowed to leave campus for lunch.

8. **Masks**- The CDC recommends, but does not mandate, indoor masking in communities with high COVID-19 levels. Currently, there is no federal or state mask mandate in place. Students who choose to wear a mask will be allowed to do so.

9. **Students with Disabilities** – Rantoul Township High School will operate consistently with federal and state law regarding access to in-person learning for students with disabilities, including providing reasonable accommodations.

Daily Schedule:

7:50 am – Students can enter the building

1st hour 8:00 am – 9:15 am – 1st hour

2nd hour 9:20 am – 10:35 am

3rd hour A Class: 10:40 am – 11:55 am Lunch 12:00 pm-12:30 pm

3rd hour B Lunch 10:40 am -11:10 am – Class: 11:15 am -12:30 pm

4th hour 12:35 pm- 1:50 pm

Office hours 1:55 pm – 2:55 pm