Lincolnwood School District 74 Learning Community,

The first day of school is right around the corner and we are thrilled to welcome back all of our students! Please accept this communication as a means to answer basic questions about the reopening.

Staff members have been in their classrooms, working in teams and preparing for the new year. Next week, we are hosting Institute Days and finalizing protocols for the start of the year. Each and every day, we are working hard to ensure that we are ready for our students on the first day of school. Below are a few important notes to keep in mind as you prepare for the start of the school year:

Like last year, this isn’t a typical start, but if we have learned anything in the last several months, we can tackle any challenge as long as we work together and remain flexible.

The present guidance from both the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health will once again be our roadmap. Based on this guidance we have plenty of variables that are changing from last year to this year.

- We ended the school year with 70% of students in person and the remainder still in remote learning. Per the new guidance, 100% of our students will be on campus, in-person learning.
- Last year we used six feet as a measurement for physical distancing and quarantining. Per the new guidance, this year we can utilize three feet while masked.
- Last year we opened the school year with cohorting and homeroom groups. This year, we have more flexibility within these groups in order to return to the curriculum programming we have become accustomed to in Lincolnwood School District 74.
- Last year, we began the year with teachers moving and students staying in classrooms. This year students will safely move to their respective classes.
- Our busses can return to capacity this school year. Masks must be worn.

With the amount of variables changing and returning to all students on campus, we will open the school year with masks indoors and no masks outdoors.

**Basics of the 21-22 Reopening**

All children will return to in-person learning, following the most recent guidance.

Masks will be required on campus while indoors, no masks are required outdoors.

**Daily Self-Certification**

While we are not requiring the daily form to be filled in, we must continue to work together on this concept. If your child has any symptoms related to COVID-19, you must keep your child and their siblings home. We ask every family to monitor your child’s health each and every day before attending school. The school nurses
are here to help with questions when calling your children in for the absence. The IDPH Interim Guidance will direct these discussions.

**Plan Ahead: First Day Memories**
In an effort to make the first day of school as seamless as possible, we ask that you please take “first day of school” photos of your children prior to arriving on campus. Feel free to email your first day photos to SD74 Director of Community Relations, Christina Audisho, at caudisho@sd74.org to have your children featured on our Twitter account (@lincolnwoodsd74).

**Classroom Assignments**
Classroom assignments were recently sent to all registered families via email for Todd Hall and Rutledge Hall. As families complete registration, the schools will send out your child’s classroom assignment for the year. Lincoln Hall students can expect their advisory assignment along with more details about the first day of school in the coming days. Information will be sent to the students’ email addresses as well as the listed email for parents/guardians in PowerSchool.

**Classrooms**
Desks/tables will be organized to maximize distance between students when possible and so long as required by ISBE guidance.
Middle school students (grades 6-8) will travel from class to class following the block schedule.
Classes may occur outside when weather permits.
Students will continue to be in homerooms and cohorts for much of their instruction. Special programming may cause the child to be pulled into specific groupings at times.

**Technology**
SD74 students in grades 3-8 will have their own iPad for the staff to utilize as one more instructional tool when appropriate.
For any family that is in need of technology support, please reach out to our tech department.
technicalsupport@sd74.org

**Masks**
To open our school year, all students must wear their masks over the nose and mouth upon entering the bus, and indoors. Masks must be multi-layer, no vents, and no gaiters.

**Bus Routes**
Families will receive their bus route information via email by Monday, August 23. *If you have not received your bus routes or would like to register your child for bus services, please contact Connie Mendez, SD74 Transportation Coordinator, at 847-675-8234 or at cmendez@sd74.org*. Bus routes are available to view on our website, [HERE](#).
**Bus Protocols**

Bus riders will be assigned a seat and need to wear a mask while on the bus. When necessary, multiple students will ride in the same seat with preference given to members of the same family sitting together.

**Reopening Schedule**

**Todd Hall**

Pre-K & Kindergarten Orientation: Thursday, August 26
Pre-K & Kindergarten First Day of School: Friday, August 27
1st & 2nd Grade First Day of School: Thursday, August 26

School Hours: 8:25 a.m. - 2:55 p.m.
AM Pre-K: 8:25 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.
PM Pre-K: 12:10 p.m. - 2:55 p.m.

**Rutledge Hall**

3rd, 4th, and 5th grade - First Day of School: Thursday, August 26

School Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

**Lincoln Hall**

6th, 7th, and 8th grade - First Day of School: Thursday, August 26

School Hours: 8:05 a.m. - 3:25 p.m.

**Traffic Pattern**

Click [HERE](#) to access the traffic pattern.

**Arrival Procedures**

All students who are not riding the bus to school should be dropped off between:
8:10 - 8:25 a.m. at Todd Hall
7:45 - 8:00 a.m. at Rutledge Hall
7:45 - 8:00 a.m. at Lincoln Hall

**Todd Hall**

All walkers should enter Todd Hall through Door 27, located on the east side of the building. Students being dropped off by vehicle will enter through the main door. Students riding the bus to school will also enter through the main door.

**Rutledge Hall**

All Rutledge Hall students will have designated entry doors by grade level. Supervisors will be available beginning at 7:45am to assist students to their doors.
Lincoln Hall
All students will enter through the main door beginning at 7:45am and supervisors will be present to direct each grade level to their designated spaces.

School Lunch
Children can either bring lunch from home or purchase from our lunch program. Details for the boxed lunch options are now available to review, HERE. We ask that no food be dropped off for students once school is in session for the day. In the case that your child forgets their lunch at home, a school lunch will be provided to them. If your child has allergy restrictions, the school will reach out to you to arrange for lunch planning.

Recess
Children will be attending recess with their grade level peers this school year and not limited to cohort or homerooms.

Band/Orchestra/Choir
We are looking forward to these groups starting up this school year with modifications based on the recent guidance.

Dismissal Procedures
If your mode of transportation changes for the day, please be sure to notify your child’s classroom teacher as soon as possible.

Hand Sanitizer
Hand sanitizer is available in every classroom at Todd Hall, Rutledge Hall, and Lincoln Hall. Students are also encouraged to bring a small individual bottle with them to use throughout the school day.

Possible Quarantine
If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 within a classroom, cohort, or bus, notification will be provided to inform parents of the quarantine period for anyone that is considered a close contact. If a quarantine is initiated by the school, the child will receive instruction through remote means. At this time, only international travel will require a quarantine (per the guidelines). Should your family travel internationally, please be mindful about scheduling your return home to accommodate the quarantine period before school begins. There will be several different pathways to return from quarantine, more information will be provided in the next few days.

Before and After School Activities/Child Care
There will be a selection of before and after school activities. As we continue to safely provide more options, please watch for school specific communication.

Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation and Children’s Care and Development Center (CCDC) programming for
after school hours will be available on their respective websites.

**Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Symptom Guide**
If you haven’t done so already, please take a moment to review the most recent IDPH’s guide for symptomatic individuals, [HERE](#).

**Ventilation**
For more detailed information, please read attached letter regarding our District’s HVAC [HVAC information HERE](#).

**Language Translation Program**
If you or a family you know will benefit from translation services, please reach out to use the SD74 Translation Program (details [HERE](#)). 16 translators are available to translate in 19 different languages.

Should you have further questions, please send email to caudisho@sd74.org and we will place an FAQ on the website.

Together as One Learning Community,

[Signature]

Dr. Kimberly A. Nasshan
Resources:

CURRENT GUIDANCE
The State of Illinois is currently in Phase 5 of Governor Pritzker’s Restore Illinois Plan. Phase 5 outlines the Illinois Restored Phase for the state.

Executive Order 2021-18_August 4, 2021
ISBE_IDPH Part 5 Guidance_August, 2021
CDC Guidance
CDC study - updated
American Pediatrics Statement

The CDC and IDPH agree on updated guidance.
IDPH concurs with CDC July 9, 2021