



# Return to School Plan 2021-2022

## **Perandoe Special Education District Return to School Reopening Plan 2021-22 School Year**

### **21-22 Return to School**

Perandoe Special Education District has revised its Return to School Plan for the 2021 – 2022 school year based on current CDC recommendations and the regulations and guidance issued by the IDPH and the Illinois State Board of Education.

### **Instruction**

Students benefit the most from learning in-person. Therefore, we are committed to providing engaging, in-person learning to all students every day. In accordance with the Illinois State Superintendent of Schools July 9, 2021 declaration Perandoe Educational Program will offer In-person instruction five days a week from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM. The first day of student attendance will be August 16, 2021.

### **Remote Learning**

Pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/10-30, remote instruction will be made available for non-vaccinated or vaccine ineligible students only while they are under quarantine consistent with guidance or requirements from a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health. If a student is quarantined, they will be provided asynchronous learning materials. These materials will be available in the school office or sent to the student electronically as soon as possible after the notification of quarantine/exclusion. Content areas, grade levels, and daily learning activities will impact delivery methods of instruction and materials. This will be communicated by each teacher.

- Students who qualify for remote learning will be provided paper pencil packets or assignments sent through Google Classrooms to support learning.
- Teachers and related service providers will be available daily for quarantined students from 2:05 pm - 2:30 pm via Google Meet.

### **Face-Coverings**

- Per Executive Order Number 18 issued by the Governor of Illinois on August 4, 2021; The indoor use of face coverings by all students, staff, and visitors who are over age two and able to medically tolerate a face covering, regardless of vaccination status is required, consistent with CDC guidance. Masks should completely cover the nose and mouth and fit snugly against the sides of the face without gaps.
- All persons, regardless of vaccination status, must wear a face mask at all times when in transit to and from school via group conveyance (e.g., school buses), unless a specific

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exemption applies. This is in accordance with the CDC Order, in effect as of February 1, 2021.

- Face coverings may not be required outdoors if safe distancing can be maintained.
- Face coverings will be available upon request.

### **Social Distancing**

- The District will work to maintain physical distancing between students of at least 3 feet, to the extent possible. At all times, the District will encourage all individuals to maintain social distance to the greatest extent possible throughout the school building.
- Students and staff will be encouraged to abstain from physical contact, such as handshakes, high fives, and hugs.

### **Hygiene/Handwashing**

- Students and staff members will be encouraged to regularly wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- The district will make available supplies such as soap and paper towels, hand sanitizer, tissues, etc., for all grade levels and in all common areas of the building.
- If soap and water are not available, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol may be used.
- Staff and students should avoid touching their mouth, eyes or nose as much as possible.
- Each building will place signage reminding everyone of the need for proper hand hygiene in the appropriate areas.
- Hand hygiene is recommended to be performed upon arrival to and departure from school; after blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing; following restroom use; before food preparation or before and after eating; before/after routine care for another person, such as a child; after contact with a person who is sick; upon return from the playground/physical education; and following glove removal (if used).
- If assisting a student requires close contact, hand washing or sanitizing should be done before and after contact with students.
- Appropriate PPE will be provided to staff.

### **Visitors**

- All visitors must undergo a health screening prior to entering the building.
- A District employee will conduct the health screening outside the entrance to the building or a designated space outside the building or if available, may use the buzzer/intercom system to ask the screening questions.

### **Symptom Screening**

- Students and staff who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as influenza (flu) or COVID-19, (listed below) should stay home and contact their healthcare provider for testing and care.
  - Fever (100.4 or greater) or chills
  - New cough
  - Shortness of breath
  - Fatigue from unknown cause
  - Muscle or body aches from an unknown cause
  - New onset of moderate or severe headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Nausea/vomiting
  - Diarrhea
- Staff and students will be asked to self-certify daily before arriving on campus.
- By sending their child to school, parents/guardians are certifying that their child does not have any of the symptoms above and their child meets the criteria to attend school.
- Likewise, by reporting to work, school employees are certifying that they do not have any symptoms above and meet the criteria to report to work.

### **Vaccinations**

Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to combat the COVID -19 pandemic. Up to date information for free vaccinations can be found by contacting your local health department. Additionally, the Illinois State Board of Education provides numerous resources such as [www.vaccines.gov](http://www.vaccines.gov).

### **Disabilities or Other Health Care Needs**

- Parents of students who need accommodations, modifications, or assistance related to COVID-19 safety protocols, disabilities, underlying medical conditions, and/or weakened immune systems should contact the building principal.
- Staff members who need accommodations, modifications, or assistance related to COVID-19 safety protocols, disabilities, underlying medical conditions, weakened immune systems or a sincerely held religious belief or practice (covered by Title VII of the Civil rights Act of 1964) should contact their school's principal to discuss their need(s).

### **Protocols for COVID symptoms and for returning to work/school**

- Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- If a student or staff member is experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms they will be separated from other students and will remain in a separate area until they are picked up. The student or staff member will be advised to contact their physician and their local health department for further guidance.
- The student or staff member will be required to meet the return to school criteria as to be determined by the local health department.
- The District will work with the local health department to facilitate contact tracing of infected students, teachers, and staff and will implement isolation and quarantine consistent with local health department directives. Students and staff who are fully vaccinated with no COVID-19 like symptoms do not need to quarantine or be restricted from school or extra-curricular activities. The CDC defines a close contact as an individual not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. For students in the classroom setting, contacts who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student do not require quarantine as long as both the case and the contact were consistently masked.
- The local health department is the final authority on identifying close contacts and will make the final determination on who is to be quarantined and for how long.
- Perandoe will follow the IDPH COVID-19 Interim Exclusion Guidance which can be found at: [IDPH Decision Tree for Symptomatic Individuals](#). This Guidance is subject to change and Perandoe will continue to follow the most up-to-date Guidance, as it is issued.

### **General Classroom Guidance**

- Teachers are recommended to provide assigned seating for students and require students to remain in these seats to the greatest extent possible.
- Surfaces will be cleaned multiple times throughout the day.
- Daily deep cleaning will take place.
- To the greatest extent possible school supplies will not be shared.
- Restroom breaks may be coordinated.

### **Social/Emotional Learning**

Considerations have been given to the impact that COVID-19 has had on the mental health of faculty, staff, students, and their families.

- Social emotional support will continue to be available to both students and families.
- Staff will work with students on lessons that are age-appropriate with regards to social distancing, hand washing, face-coverings, and proper hygiene.
- Social Emotional Learning activities will be provided to students in alignment with IEP goals.
- Trauma Informed School Practices, mindfulness, stress and anxiety management, tips for supporting students during times of uncertainty, and guided meditations will be integrated into activities and programming,

### **Food Service**

- Meals will be delivered to and consumed in classrooms or outdoors while ensuring social distancing to the greatest extent possible.
- Meals will be individually plated.
- Students will not share food.
- Disposable food service items (e.g. utensils, dishes) will be utilized.
- Appropriate PPE, such as gloves and face coverings, will be worn when preparing and distributing food.
- Face coverings will be required for all individuals (if not eating)
- Areas where students consume meals will be disinfected and cleaned before and after each meal.
- Students will wash their hands before and after consuming their meals.
- Touchless bottle filling water fountains will remain available for use by students and staff, with increased cleaning and disinfecting measures in place.
- Water fountains with a shared faucet will be unavailable.

### **Transportation**

- All persons, regardless of vaccination status, must wear a face mask at all times when in transit to and from school via group conveyance (i.e. school buses), unless a specific exemption applies. This is in accordance with the CDC Order issued on January 29, 2021, and effective on February 1, 2021. This Order pertains to all forms of public transportation, including District buses and transportation.
- Social distancing will be enforced to the extent possible.

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- When it does not pose a safety risk, Perandoe transportation staff will keep vehicle windows ajar to improve ventilation.
- Commonly touched surfaces in the vehicle will be cleaned and disinfected between transporting passengers.

### Facilities

- Frequent cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces will be performed to reduce exposure to COVID-19.
- Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned regularly, using approved disinfectants.
- Complete disinfection of rooms will be performed as needed following suspected or actual COVID-19 contamination.
- Additional hand sanitizing stations will be available in locations throughout the schools.
- Signage will be used to promote social distancing and personal hygiene.
- When possible, staff will open doors and windows and may have activities, classes, or lunches outdoors when circumstances allow.

### Collaboration with Public Health Officials

District officials will continue to collaborate and consult with Monroe and Randolph County Health Department officials throughout a pandemic on various logistics and decision-making including, but not limited to school health and safety protocols, screening testing, contact tracing, vaccine clinics and emergency school closings.

### Plan Review

This plan is subject to change upon the issuance of new Executive Orders and/or the release of new guidance from the CDC/IDPH/ISBE and/or the local health department. This plan will be regularly reviewed and revised as appropriate based on school, community, and county positivity numbers and after consultation with local public health officials and considering public input. Revisions will address the most recent updated safety recommendations by the Randolph County Health Department in conjunction with the CDC and IDPH. This plan may be provided in an alternative format accessible to parents who are individuals with a disability as defined by the ADA and made publicly available on the district's website.