



Chicago Ridge  
School District 127.5  
Leaders In Learning™

**Return to Learn Updates**  
**PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**October 2, 2020**

# DISTRICT 127.5 GOALS FOR BACK TO SCHOOL

- **Prioritize health and safety**
- Support a smooth transition back to school, providing the choice of high-quality, rigorous learning options
- Prepare for **multiple scenarios**
- Remain **nimble and flexible** based on Illinois State Board of Education, Illinois Department of Public Health and Center for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines



# Illinois School Board of Education Guidance

- **In-person instruction** is strongly encouraged in Phase 4
- Districts must prepare for alternative structure to in-person for **students with elevated health risks**
- Districts must plan for **return to remote instruction** pending resurgence or second wave of the virus
- Follow Phase 4 IDPH guidelines which includes:
  - Requiring use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including **face coverings**;
  - Prohibiting more than **50 individuals** from gathering in one space;
  - Requiring **social distancing** be observed, as much as possible;
  - Requiring that schools conduct **symptom screenings** and temperature checks or require that individuals **self-certify** that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings; and
  - Requiring an **increase in schoolwide cleaning and disinfection**

# Why can we return students onsite?

- Guidance has been updated
- Clearer picture than we had in August
- Metrics are currently favorable



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# What do our community's COVID-19 metrics look like?

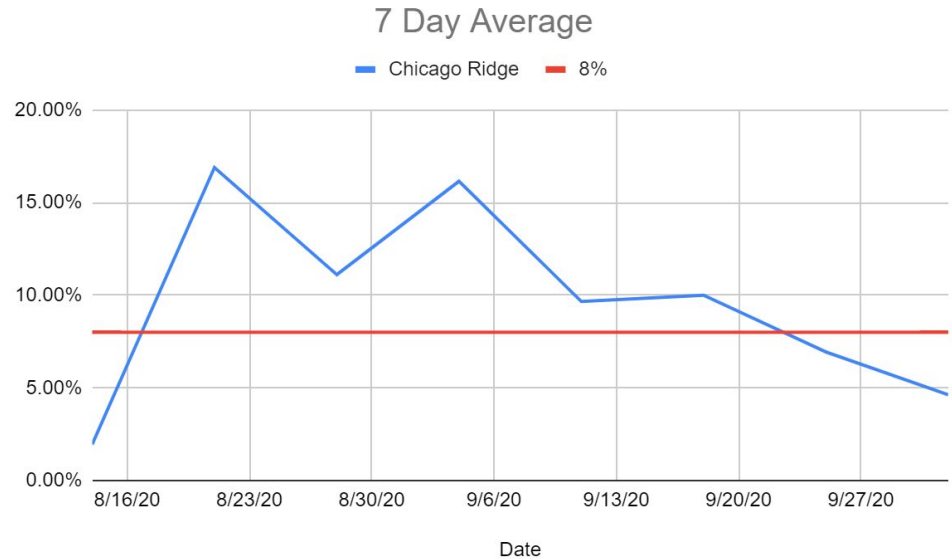
## Region 10 (Suburban Cook County) Positivity Rates:

- August 21 6.1%
- August 28 6.8%
- September 4 6.7%
- September 11 6.1%
- September 18 5.2%
- September 25 4.5%
- October 2 5.2%

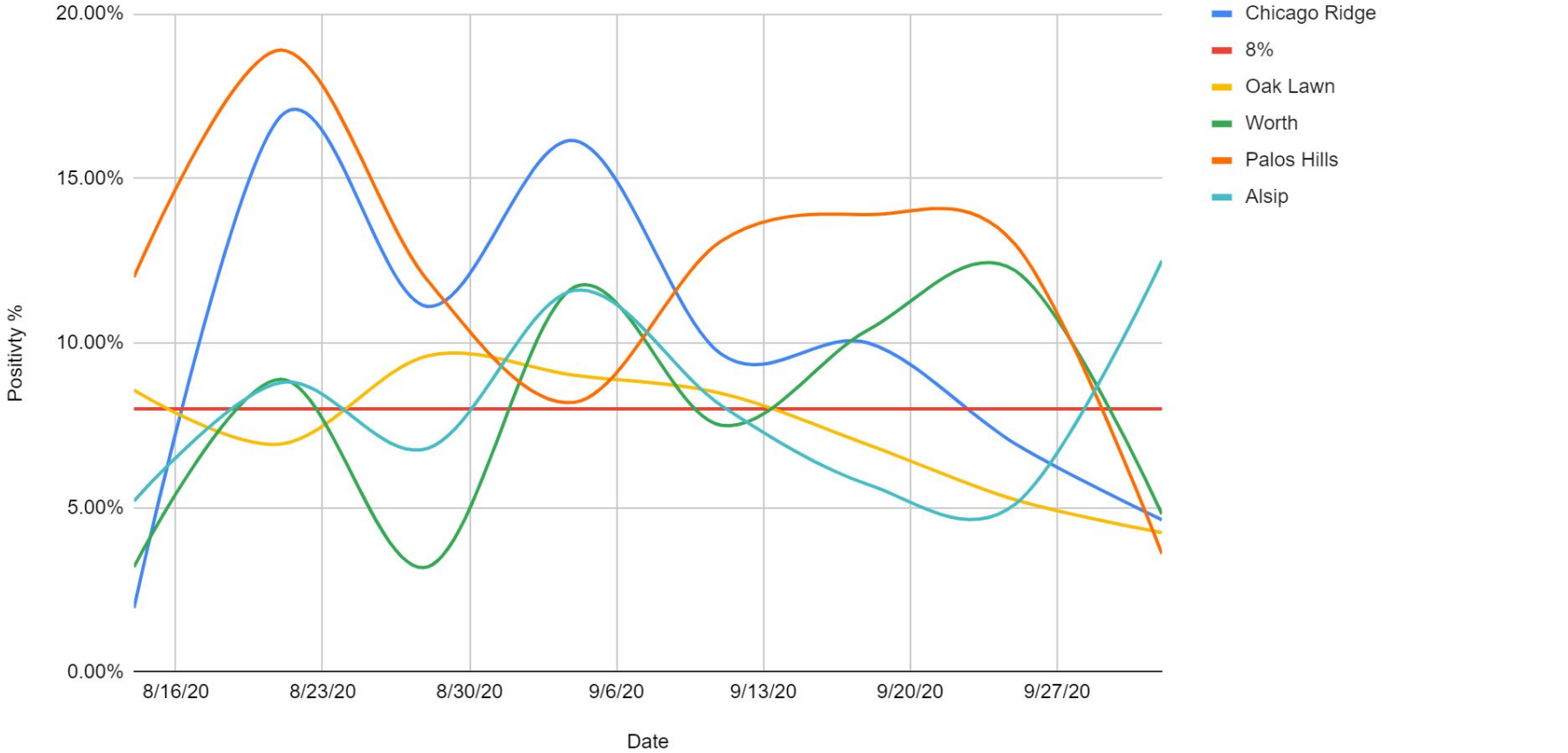
# What do our community's COVID-19 metrics look like?

## Chicago Ridge Positivity Rates:

- August 14 1.95%
- August 21 16.89%
- August 28 11.11%
- September 4 16.15%
- September 11 9.66%
- September 18 10.0%
- September 25 6.94%
- October 1 4.63%



# Local 7- Day Positivity Rate



# Returning to onsite instruction - Items to assess

## Indicators

Are we able to open based on indicators from the Illinois Department of Public Health and Cook County Department of Public Health.

## Staffing

Can we staff under these updated guidelines? Are individuals consistently able to report to work based upon the isolation and/or quarantine requirements?

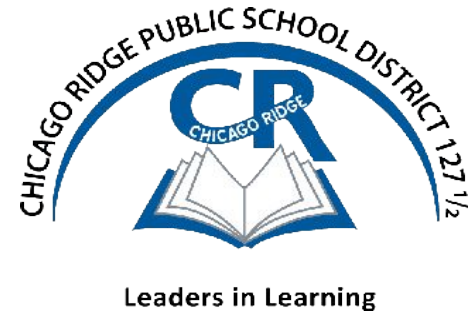
## Implementation of Guidance

Can it be done? Does it disrupt the educational process? Is it too costly?



# A Review of the Guidance and Assessment Criteria

- ISBE
  - 5 Hour Instructional Day
  - 2.5 Hours of Synchronous Instruction
  - A Variety of Instructional Options
- IDPH
  - Metrics
  - Masks
  - Social Distancing
  - Self-Certification
  - Transportation



# Staffing - Impact on the Educational Process

What have we experienced related to COVID-19?

- Positive Cases
  - We have had zero positive cases since teachers reported on August 17.
  - We have had numerous staff absences who were considered close contacts.
    - Avg. of 1 teacher per building a week
    - All were negative or received alternative diagnosis



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# An overview of the planning process (cont.)

- Recognition that each potential Phase 4 instructional model requires us to sacrifice some element(s) of best practice in education
  - Adherence to the guidance means we cannot accomplish the same structures we would in a typical year.
  - We work to make deliberate decisions knowing that no one decision will satisfy every stakeholder
  - Knowing that we cannot have it all, we pursue our priorities for quality instruction and the health and well-being of students and staff in all models.

# An overview of the planning process (cont.)

- Working to minimize the impact of transition on students, staff, and families.
  - There will be an impact; there will be students whose teachers will change.
  - To minimize this:
    - Grade level consistency
    - Thoughtful planning
    - Continued grade level team collaboration



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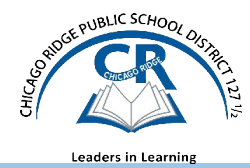
# An overview of the planning process

## Hybrid Models considered

- Plan that was presented back in July where students were broken up into A & B groups and alternated full days.
- Half of the students attend onsite in the morning, half in the afternoon.



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# Recommended District 127.5 Models

## Hybrid Model

- Students will attend School 5 days a week for 2.5 hours each day
- Students will be broken up into AM & PM groups
- AM students will be in-person from 8:10-10:40.  
PM students will be in-person from 12:30-3:00.
- Remote Learning will occur during the time students are at home.

## Optional Opt-In Remote Learning

- Synchronous and asynchronous (live and recorded) virtual participation in instruction from home.
- Times will be adjusted to mirror those of in-person instruction.
- 8:10-10:40 Remote Learning
- 10:40-12:30 Break/Lunch
- 12:30-3:00 Remote Learning

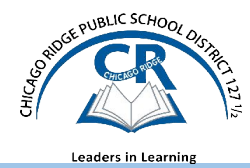
# Why the Change from the Initial Plan?

The District has always believed that in-person instruction everyday is more beneficial for students.

In July there were hindrances to offering an AM/PM Model.

Now we have:

- Full custodial staff
- Assurances that buses will be sanitized between routes



# Hybrid Model

- Combines in person instruction with virtual learning
- Students will be placed in the AM / PM groups based on a variety of factors.
- Allows for approximately half of our student population to return to in-person instruction in the morning and the other half in the afternoon.
- Allows for in-person contact with a classroom teacher and peers every day in a smaller populated space.



# Preschool recommendation to return to onsite

## Blended

- Consistent 5 days per week attendance option for all students
- Synchronous instruction provided during 90 minutes onsite
- Asynchronous activities available daily
- 3 sessions
  - 8:10 - 9:40
  - 10:30 - 12:00
  - 1:30 - 3:00



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# Elementary recommendation to return to onsite

- Groups are assigned based on a number of factors, including
  - District will use Alpha last names as a starting point
  - Classroom sizes
  - Siblings
  - Transportation Needs
  - Academic needs
- For grades K-5, a combination of synchronous and asynchronous instruction will occur during the offsite portion.



# Elementary Recommendation to return onsite

## **AM GROUP**

### **(2.5 live teaching)**

8:10-8:20 Attendance and SEL

8:20-9:20 Literacy

9:20-10:20 Math

10:20-10:40 Preparation for asynchronous learning/SEL

### **(2.5 synchronous/asynchronous teaching)**

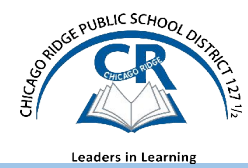
10:40-12:30 Transportation, Lunch, Break

12:30-1:05 SPECIALS (Art, Music, PE)

1:05-1:35 Science asynchronous

1:35-2:05 Social Studies asynchronous

2:05-3:00 Independent reading/Writing/Word Study/etc.



# Sample Schedule for PM GROUP

## PM GROUP

**(2.5 synchronous/asynchronous teaching)**

8:10-8:45 Social Studies asynchronous

8:45-9:15 SPECIALS

9:15-9:45 Science asynchronous

9:45-10:40 Independent reading/Writing/Word Study

10:40-12:10 Break / LUNCH

12:10-12:30 Transportation

**(2.5 live teaching)**

12:30-12:40 Attendance and SEL

12:40-1:40 Literacy

1:40-2:40 Math

2:40-3:00 Preparation for asynchronous learning/SEL

## Sample Jr. High AM Schedule

Period(s)	Time	Class - Teacher	
HR	8:10-8:24	SEL	
1 & 3	8:24 - 9:06	ELA	
5 & 6	9:11 - 9:53	Math	
8	9:58 - 10:40	Social Studies / Science	
	10:40 - 12:30	Transportation/Break/Lunch	
2	12:44 - 1:05	PE	
	1:05-2:16	Asynchronous Work	
7	2:16 - 2:37	STEM	

# Two Considerations for Jr. High Model

- All in-person 6th grade Science classes will have a staff member in the room but the Science teacher will be virtual.
- We do not anticipate offering honors math remotely due to staffing and scheduling limitations.
- 6 - 8th grade would look to run the new schedule remotely the week before.

# Remote Option

- Schedule would change to mirror in-person instruction.
  - 8:10-10:40
  - 12:30-3:00
- Teachers may need to be adjusted

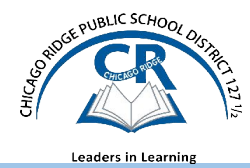


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# Timeline for Return to In-Person Instruction

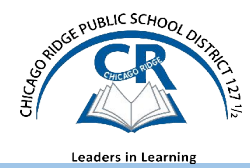
- **Tuesday Oct 13** - All PreK, Kindergarten, and 6th grade students return along with some Special Education and English Language Learners
- **Monday Oct 19** - All students return in-person in the AM/PM Hybrid Model





# Hybrid Model & Remote Learning

- Special Education - Students with IEP/504 plans enrolled in both the hybrid and remote models will receive supports and services via an individual remote learning plan that is developed with consideration of their special service needs.
- Grades - Students will continue to be graded on the District's traditional A-F model.
- Extracurriculars - Students will be able to participate in extracurriculars.



# Survey

- Families will receive a survey later this evening (10/2) to make their selection for in-person learning or to continue in Remote Learning.
- There will also be a question on the survey regarding transportation.
- The survey will be due back by Monday, October 10/5 by 3 PM.

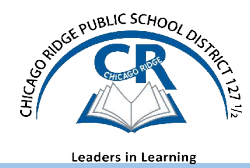


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# Childcare Issues

- The District understands that one of the potential drawbacks of the AM/PM model is that there is not a time when students are in school the full day.
- This can cause scheduling issues for our families.
- The District is currently working on a partnership with the Chicago Ridge Park District and Ivy League Kids which offers before and after school programs.
- A separate survey with information about Ivy League, including rates will go out later this week.





# Health and Safety Protocols

## Standard Operating Procedures

- Face coverings will be mandatory
- PPE kits including masks and disinfectant will be provided to ALL staff.
- Temperature and symptoms screening of all visitors will be conducted upon arrival at all facilities. Isolated waiting room identified in all facilities for individuals demonstrating COVID-19 symptoms.
- Limits will be placed on non-essential visitors, volunteers and activities involving external groups.
- Social distancing will be observed as much as possible in all areas.
- No gatherings of 50 or more individuals in one space.
- Buses limited to a maximum of 50 people.
- Completion of COVID-19 self screener by all staff, students and visitors will be required PRIOR to arriving at school or District offices and/or daily temperature checks.
- Temperature checks may be taken throughout the day

# Health and Safety Protocols

- Each family will receive a pad for their student with a daily self-certification form.
- Students will need to have the self-certification filled out before boarding a bus or entering the school.
- Temperature checks will still be completed before entering the school building.



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Chicago Ridge School District #127.5

Daily Symptom Check Self-Certification

**Please fill out the information daily and return with your student to school.**

**Your child will not be permitted to enter school or board a bus without this ticket.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle YES or NO to the following Questions related to your child's health:**

When taking your child's temperature this morning, do they have a fever greater than **100.4**? YES NO

Has your child had known exposure to COVID-19? YES NO

Does your child have a persistent cough, difficulty breathing, or any other respiratory symptoms not related to an isolated asthmatic episode? YES NO

Does your child have chills, muscle pain and/or headache? YES NO

Does your child have a sore throat? YES NO

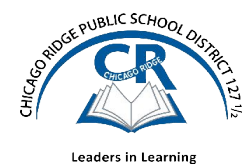
Does your child have gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea? YES NO

Does your child have a new loss of taste or smell? YES NO

Have you been asked to self-isolate or quarantine by a medical professional or local public health official? YES NO

**If you circled YES to any of the questions above, please keep your child home from school and contact your school's health office to determine in your child can attend school.**





# Health and Safety Protocols

## Preparing for when a Student or Staff Member Becomes Sick

- Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 or who shows any signs or symptoms of illness should stay home.
- Families and staff will be asked to report possible cases to the school where the individual attends or works to initiate contact tracing.
- Nurse/Office will collect symptom reports when absences are reported.
- An important question can now be investigated: Are symptoms new to the student/staff person or are they a change in baseline for that individual?
- 24 hours must elapse from resolution of fever without fever reducing medication **and** 14 calendar days must pass after symptoms first appeared prior to return if they have not received a negative test for COVID-19 or received an alternate diagnoses.
- If a staff member or student is found to test positive - we will follow IDPH guidance regarding quarantine requirements and the potential closure of a school.

# A look ahead

- This model would be fully implemented starting the week of 10/19 and continue through Winter Break
  - Ongoing review, support, and collaboration will take place
  - Regular updates will be provided to the Board and the community
- The afternoons of October 8 and 9 will be asynchronous
- Finalize Ivy League and Chicago Ridge Park District Partnerships
- Consideration and more specified planning for our programs and courses that need refinement to accommodate this model.
- Finalizing all areas of the plan.



# RESPONSIVE AND FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTION AND SERVICES

- We understand the stress and challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic has created and appreciate your ongoing partnership.
- While we cannot predict the future, we can assure our community that we will continue to do everything in our control to be responsive and flexible in providing the instruction and services our students need and deserve.
- We ask for your continued patience and adaptability as we work to implement this plan or make modifications as necessary.

# Board Questions

