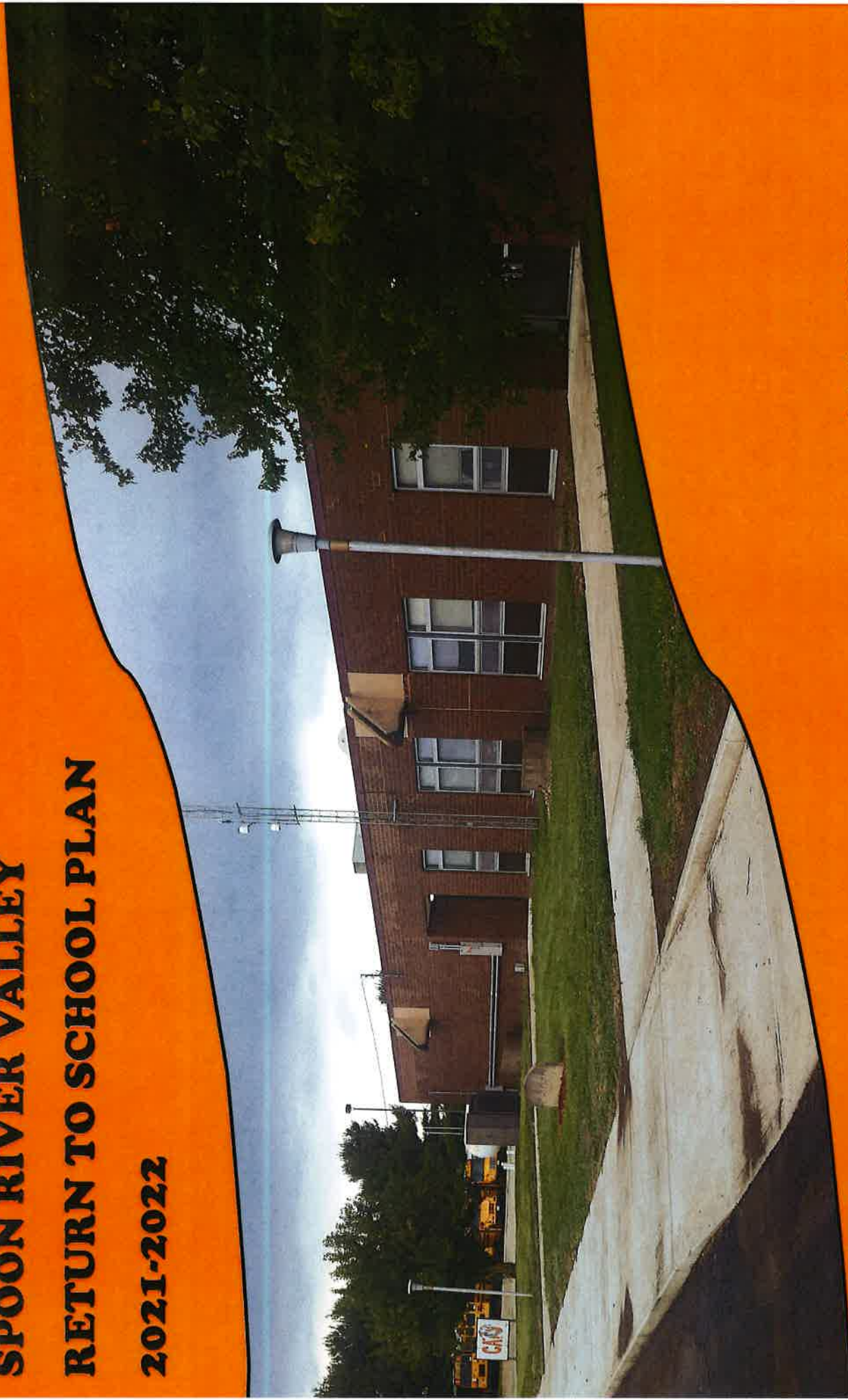


**SPOON RIVER VALLEY
RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN
2021-2022**



Revised August 16, 2021

In March of 2020, the global COVID pandemic caused a disruption to most aspects of life as we knew it, including schools and education. Many of the interactions we all shared in public spaces were limited and changed in many ways including our public school systems. We finished the spring of 2020 with everyone in remote learning mode. We returned to in-person school in the fall of 2020 with many major modifications in how we did things in an effort to keep students and staff safe. Recognizing the challenges and trauma the COVID pandemic created across remote and in-person learning environments, the U.S. Congress made emergency funds available to local schools to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID. Most recently, funds available through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act require school districts to develop a Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction. As such, this plan has been developed in accordance with the ARP Act and the Illinois State Superintendent of Education declaration of July 9, 2021; is aligned with guidance provided by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and addresses adjustments needed in response to evolving COVID pandemic conditions. The school district will continue to work with the Fulton County Health Department to monitor local conditions and adjust as further guidance requires. Spoon River Valley CUSD 4 remains focused on providing a safe venue to provide the best educational environment possible for students.

Summary

Spoon River Valley CUSD 4 has been preparing and planning for a return to school plan based on the guidance from the Illinois State board of Education (ISBE), the Illinois Department of Health (IDPH) and the state's five-phase reopening plan, Restore Illinois.

In accordance with Executive Order 2021-18 issued August 4, 2021 we will start school with all students, staff and guests required to wear masks in the buildings. When the executive order expires or changes, we will follow those changes and communicate those changes to our families and the public.

This guide outlines the educational plans and protocols for the entire school year relative to the phase the State of Illinois is in at the time. The fluidity of the situation may result in the school being in several different phases throughout the year. The protocols outlined in this guide are subject to change as the guidelines evolve.

Returning to Learn Phases

Phase 1 Rapid Spread	Phase 2 Flattening	Phase 3 Recovery	Phase 4 Revitalization	Phase 5 Illinois Restored
<p>Strict stay at home and social distancing guidelines are put in place, and only essential businesses remain open.</p> <p>Every region has experienced this phase once already and could return to it if mitigation efforts are unsuccessful.</p>	<p>Non-essential retail stores reopen for curb-side pickup and delivery.</p> <p>Illinoisans are directed to wear a face covering when outside the home and can begin enjoying additional outdoor activities like golf, boating & fishing while practicing social distancing.</p>	<p>Manufacturing, offices, retail, barbershops and salons can reopen to the public with capacity and other limits and safety precautions.</p> <p>Gatherings of 10 people or fewer are allowed.</p> <p>Face coverings and social distancing are the norm.</p>	<p>Gatherings of 50 people or fewer are allowed, restaurants and bars reopen, travel resumes, child care and schools reopen under guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health.</p> <p>Face coverings and social distancing are the norm.</p>	<p>The economy fully reopens with safety precautions continuing.</p> <p>Conventions, festivals and large events are permitted, and all businesses, schools and places of recreation can open with new safety guidance and procedures.</p>

Phase 1 - Rapid Spread

All students would be required to participate in Remote Learning.

Phase 2 - Flattening

All students would be required to participate in Remote Learning.

Phase 3 - Recovery

With social distancing guidelines in place, gatherings of 10 or less people in a space are permitted.

Most students would engage in Remote Learning
 Students in some special education groups may return to campus
 Staff is on site as required
 The district follows IHSA guidelines for athletics.

Phase 4 - Revitalization

With Social distancing guidelines in place, gatherings of 50 people or less in a space are permitted.

All students and staff are on campus, with the option of online learning for some. The district follows IHSA guidelines for athletics.

Phase 5 - Restored

School resumes as normal with new public health guidelines in place.

In person learning schedules

We are returning to full days of regular instruction with the school day ending at 2:45 pm.

Physical Distancing

Students and staff will maintain three to six feet of social distance to the extent possible.

Visual reminders will be posted throughout the school buildings.

Dismissals and release of students to and from buses or parent pickup/drop off will be controlled.

Physical distancing will be done in an equitable manner that does not perpetuate segregation or isolation.

Face Coverings and PPE

Currently Executive Order 2021-18 requires face covering be worn by students, staff and visitors in PreK-12 school buildings. If there are changes in transmission rates and/or guidance this could change.

Face coverings must be worn by all passengers and drivers on school buses.

Face coverings do not need to be worn outside.

A limited supply of disposable face coverings will be available.

Hygiene

Frequent hand washing and hand sanitizing are key to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Staff members must clean hands as often as possible with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available hand sanitizer may be used.

Staff and students are encouraged to use hand sanitizer upon entering the classroom each time.

Visuals will be posted encouraging proper hand hygiene.

If assisting students requires close contact, hand washing and sanitizing must be done before and after contact with the students.

Health Screenings

Families should monitor student health daily to determine that students are symptoms free before sending students to school. Only healthy students and staff should report to school. Students are encouraged to stay home when not feeling well.

Students and staff with the following symptoms must remain home:

New cough

Fatigue from unknown cause

New onset of moderate to severe headache

Known contact with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19

Measured temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater

Vomiting

Sore throat

Shortness of breath

Diarrhea

New loss of sense of taste or smell

Muscle or body ache from unknown cause

Any student or staff member who begins to exhibit **any symptom** associated with COVID-19 like symptoms must report to the school nurse.

Students will remain in the quarantine areas until a parent or guardian picks up the students or an alternative transportation home is arranged.

Students and staff who come in contact with someone who is positive for COVID-19 must follow the IDPH guidelines for self-monitoring and self-quarantine.

To facilitate COVID-19 diagnosis and inform the need for quarantine of close contacts and isolation, a rapid COVID -19 test can be administered on site only with parental consent.

An Abbott BinaxNow Antigen rapid test can be administered by school nurses or by certified staff to students for whom we have received parental consent and meets symptom criteria.

Students who test positive will be sent home to work with the Fulton County Health Department for quarantine under the current guidance. You will need to follow up with your healthcare provider.

Remote Learning

State Superintendent of Education Dr. Carmen I. Ayala issued the following declaration mandating in-person learning with limited exceptions:

Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, all schools must resume fully in-person learning for all student attendance days, provided that, pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/10-30](#) and [105 ILCS 5/34-18.66](#), remote instruction be made available for students who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine or who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine, only while they are under quarantine consistent with guidance or requirements from a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health. In alignment with this statement from ISBE, remote learning will only be available for those not vaccinated that have been placed under quarantine.

Visitors

Visitors to any building are required to wear face coverings and are subject to health screenings.

Classrooms

Arrange seating three to six feet apart, if possible and face the same direction if feasible

Teachers will assign seating

Encourage hand washing and sanitizing

Do not share school supplies

Hallways

Maintain three to six feet distance to the extent possible

Mark common gathering areas to show three to six feet spacing

Provide visuals to indicate spacing and directional flow

Cafeteria

The cafeteria will be utilized as allowed for 3 to 6 feet of spacing between students to the extent possible. Students may also be eating in alternate locations as necessary to maintain social distancing. Staff will be assigned to provide supervision by building administration as needed.

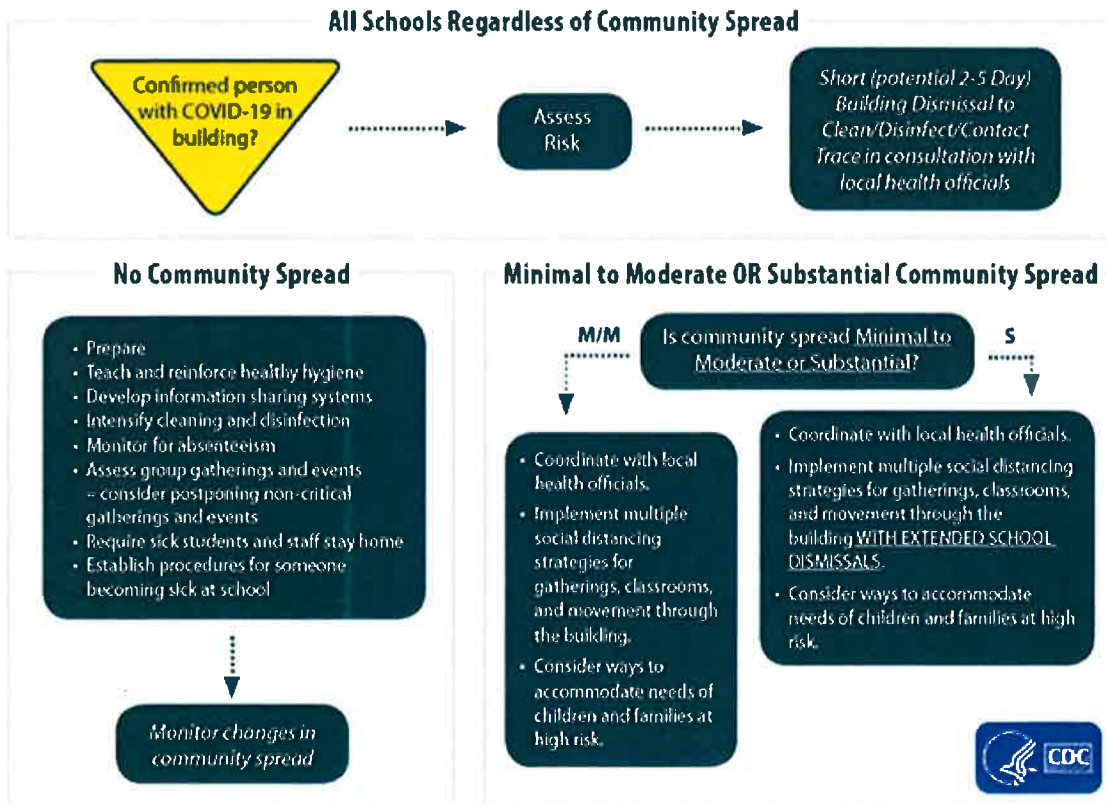
Fully vaccinated Students/ Staff

Staff/students are considered fully vaccinated and protected two weeks following the final dose of vaccine.

Symptomatic staff/students should stay home if they are ill, regardless of vaccine status.

No COVID testing will be required for return to school following illness, unless recommended by a healthcare provider.

School Decision Tree



Safety Education for Students and Staff

Students will receive education and guidance for proper physical distancing, use of PPE and hand hygiene during the first two weeks of school.

Illness and Diagnosis Monitoring

A tracking process will be instituted to maintain ongoing monitoring of individuals excluded from school because they have COVID-19 like symptoms, have been diagnosed with COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 and are in quarantine.

Employees and families are encouraged to report specific symptoms, COVID-19 diagnosis and COVID-19 exposures when reporting absences.

Confirmed cases of COVID-19 should be reported to the local health department by the school nurse or designee as required by the Illinois Infectious Disease Reporting requirements issued by IDPH.

The District will inform the school community of outbreaks per local and state health department guidelines while maintaining students and staff confidentiality rights. Experiences of positive cases will be reported on the school community.

Symptomatic individuals and those who test positive for COVID-19 will be excluded from school per current local and state health department guidelines.

Mental Health

Considerations will be given to the impact that COVID-19 has on the mental health of staff, students and their families. The mental and emotional well-being of students and staff members will be closely monitored.

Training will be provided to staff to increase awareness of the impact of COVID-19

Access to school counselors and school based mental health support are readily available as possible and communicated to the students and employees.

Vaccination

If there is a need or request, the district will support the Fulton County Health Department in hosting clinics in the future.

Vaccination clinics hosted at the school are voluntary, open to the community and meant to provide an opportunity for those who choose to participate.

The district respects that choosing to be vaccinated for COVID-19 is a personal choice.