
School Safety Presentation

Draft Phased Masking Plans

Topics

1. Summer 2021 Plan Key Elements
2. Governor's Executive Order and Legal Cases
3. What Metrics are important?
4. Phases Masking Categories and Metrics
5. Application to School Year
6. Social Emotional Learning
7. Considerations
8. Timelines with Respect to the EO
9. Communication and Teaching Out To Teachers
10. Communication to Parents

Summer 2021 Plan Key Elements

1. Protect the safety of students and staff and adhere to IDPH Guidance and then the Executive Order
2. Provide the opportunity for students (Parent choice) to be vaccinated first before lesser mask use
3. Low metrics based on school and community incidence
4. Phased or situational approach that was based on health and safety metrics and educational situations/space
5. No allowance for teasing and social acceptance of student choice
 - December Board Meeting I discussed advocacy in relation to EO and IDPH

Governor's Executive Order and Legal Cases

- [Governor's Executive Order](#)
- Pending Court Case Stay and Findings status
- Governor's Press Conference 2-9-2022
- Ongoing and updated IDPH and ISBE guidance
- Adhering to the guidance and legal implications with district liability, ISBE recognition and athletics eligibility.
- As a Board of Education we have always wanted local control with health and safety metrics with thresholds, guidance

What Metrics are important?

1. School Incidence or count per week, expressed as a percentage
2. Community Incidence ([Northwestern Covid Dashboard](#)) expressed as a percentage
3. Vaccination Rate
 - a. County rates are high, we don't track as a district
4. Hospitalization capacity
 - a. I have not included, as #2 above and County-wide should capture larger outbreaks
5. Responsive to Evaluate Specific Metric and Threshold Guidance to Come

	Mitigation Stage - Masking
Universal	<p>Universal Masking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EO is still in place - Itasca ● District Weekly incidence over 10 day average prior weeks (over 3%) ● Community Rate: At Red, High Risk concurrent data 10 day average ● School following breaks (Thanksgiving, Winter, Spring), 1 week ● Responsive to community and school outbreaks, Board & Supe.
As Needed	<p>Situational Masking, if needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EO is modified or ends ● If District weekly average over 10 day average (1.0-3.0%) ● Community Rate, is in Yellow Moderate Or Green/Low for average over 10 days ● School and educational space where 3 feet can not be secured ● Outbreak of 3 or more in a class may require masking or AP ● To mask remains a choice
Optional	<p>Optional Masking, Recommended but not Required</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District weekly average over 10 day average (Under 1%) ● Community Rate 10 day average is in Green/Low ● Spaces where 3-6 ft. can be assured ● Busing remains as mandatory, Federal Law ● Outbreak 3 or more in a class may require asking or AP may remain ● To mask remains a choice

Application to School Year if No EO and Guidance Supports

1. The first 2 weeks of school in August would have been Universal Masking for all
2. This would have continued and released for 7th and 8th by October since they had vaccination availability. Then situational or Recommended not Required (RR) masking until Winter Break
3. K-5 after vaccination availability was met by Thanksgiving. December would have been Situational or RR Masking
4. January would have been Universal Masking for K-8 till February 4th. Then K-8 Situational/ Recommended but not Required
5. Universal? One week after Thanksgiving, Winter and Spring Break regardless

Social Emotional Learning

- We are still under the EO and someday it will change
- No harassment between students on masking status
- No harassment of our teachers or students by parents on masking status
- Social stories and SEL lessons to protect diversity and student choice

Considerations

1. Pre-K, need to evaluate
2. Universal, 1 week after longer breaks?
3. We can't enforce a parent's expectation one way or another in regards to student choice with masking (lunch and vegetables)
4. Metrics and thresholds may change based on guidance and our ongoing evaluation

Timelines with Respect to the EO

- The EO for schools stands.
- Parents may advocate as citizens to the Governor's office and their State Legislators to change this rather than demanding a school not adhere to an EO.
- We have always supported local BOE control.
- There are some significant problems to a school district violating an EO
- Regardless, we had to observe and see safer conditions, then build our plan and review before we started. The plan is proposed and has not started.
- The BOE and I will continue to learn and evaluate all options in regards to guidance and the EO.
- If the EO or legal cases give that authority to the local school board we will be (and pretty much are) ready

Communication and Teaching Out to Teachers

1. We are building out guidelines for implementation based on the learning schedule and educational design
2. Developing an internal FAQ and staff development
3. Distancing mitigations typically have educational design solutions

Communication to Parents

1. We are still under the EO
2. All parents and teachers deserve advance notice of when this could be implemented. Not the weekend before school.
3. Parents FAQ for the nuances of the plan when it can move forward

Questions/Comments

