



Resolution No. 21:890

School Reopening Plan for the 2020-2021 School Year

Approved by the Pekin 108 School Board

on July 16, 2020

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**Pekin Public Schools District 108
Reopening Transition Plan
for August-October 2020**

July 20, 2020

Executive Summary



Pekin Public Schools has developed a Reopening Transition Plan for the 2020 – 2021 school year. In spring of 2020, the COVID- 19 pandemic resulted in the immediate early closure of schools across Illinois. In March, Pekin Public Schools implemented Pekin 108’s Phase I for Remote Learning. A team of school coaches and administrators created Remote Learning packets for all PreK-8 students in the district. Phase II of Remote Learning, which included devices deployed to Grade 3-8 students for online remote learning, began in April. Despite incredible efforts by teachers and staff, it reinforced that in person student learning cannot be duplicated with remote meetings or online conferencing. The value of in person student and teacher interaction is key to student success and learning. The State of Illinois recognizes this fact and allows for students to return to in person learning during phases 3 & 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan adopted by Governor J.B. Pritzker. This plan further states that Illinois schools must follow approved safety guidance from the IDPH for re-opening.

In July, Pekin Public Schools formed a Reopening Transition Task Force. The purpose of this task force was **to provide input for developing a learning model that meets ISBE/IDPH requirements and maximizes safety for all students, staff, and faculty while meeting the academic, social, and emotional needs of students.** The task force reviewed available information, discussed options, and provided input for a reopening plan.

Next, the Central Office Administrators met with all service providers. These meetings included Aramark, ABBCO, Pekin Bus Company, Tazewell County Health Department, and Unity Point. Each service provider collaboratively developed their own plans that support the reopening of Pekin 108 Schools.

Pekin Public Schools District 108 has developed a blended learning model which places student and staff safety as a priority. The intent of the blended model is to allow students to attend school in person while maintaining CDC and IDPH guidelines for physical distancing through a reduced number of students in each building. By reducing student numbers, physical distancing will have the best opportunity for success. This can reduce the risk of an increase in the spread of COVID-19 to students and adults throughout the community. Each school would be responsible for developing their own unique physical distancing plans for their building. Face coverings for all individuals would be required. This requirement is subject to change as these guidelines evolve. Classrooms will be cleaned and disinfected daily. Emphasis will be placed on high touch surfaces and common areas. Restrooms, cafeterias, and other common areas will be cleaned throughout the day.

The first day of school for the blended learning model will be Thursday, August 20, 2020 for students in Group A and Friday, August 21, 2020 for students in Group B. Families will have the option of

choosing a 9-week full trimester of remote learning schedule during registration in July and August. Having an additional phase at the end of the first trimester allows Pekin Public Schools to assess our current COVID-19 strategies.

The following document outlines the details of the Pekin Public Schools 108 reopening plan and the supporting plans from all service providers. The document is divided into five sections. These sections are *Health and Safety, Human Resources, Technology, Instruction, and Operations*.

Health and Safety

Staff and Student Protection Plan

Pekin Public Schools is committed to the health and safety of our students, staff, and their families. The following plan has been developed with that in mind. While our plan specifies guidelines for our staff, students, and buildings to follow, everyone's health and safety is dependent on each individual. Each staff member must ensure their own health and safety by adhering to these guidelines and reporting any issues or safety concerns to their building principal or supervisor. Each of us will play a role in our collective safety.

Each building principal will be responsible for submitting their individual plans for review and approval. Every effort must be made to ensure the health and safety of staff and students, including quarantine when necessary, and a nurse's space within each building when feasible.

Signs and Messages

Each building must post signs and messages in highly visible locations that reinforce safety precautions and promote everyday protective measures (e.g., proper handwashing and appropriate face coverings).

Signage posted must be in main entryways noting:

- A) that persons may not enter the building if they have any currently known symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea;
- B) a 6-foot distance from others must be maintained as much as possible;
- C) a face covering must be worn at all times and;
- D) shaking hands or engaging in any other physical contact is prohibited in district buildings.

Each school will make daily announcements about reducing the spread of COVID-19 on its public address system. The district strongly encourages that each building share videos about behaviors that prevent the spread of COVID-19 on school websites, in e-mails, and on school social media accounts, as feasible.

Social Distancing

Pekin Public Schools students and staff are encouraged to maintain physical distancing (6 feet separation) throughout the school day. Signage reminding staff, visitors, and students to maintain physical distancing will be placed at all entrances, in classrooms, and throughout other common areas. Physical distancing applies to all areas including the classroom, common areas, and the main office. Student mixing must be reduced to a minimum. Students will remain with their grade level cohorts to reduce mixing grade levels within the building as much as possible.

Students must use one classroom, one entrance to the building, one restroom, and one hallway. Every effort must be taken to create “pods” within each building for each classroom and grade level. The pods within the schools will allow for more precise contact tracing should a case of COVID-19 be confirmed at a location. This will also control the spread of COVID-19 to a specific grade level or classroom. Building staff will review their student pick up and drop off procedures to maintain physical distancing. Staff break areas must be arranged to maintain physical distancing. Building administrators will need to review break times to minimize the amount time staff is eating with their mask off near others.

Face Coverings and P.P.E.

Pekin Public Schools understands that physical distancing will not be possible in all circumstances. All individuals in school buildings (students, staff, and visitors) will be required to properly wear a nose and mouth covering in all areas of the building, at all times, unless they are younger than 2 years of age; have trouble breathing; or are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance. Face coverings must be worn at all times in school buildings even when physical distancing is maintained. Students and staff who are not able to wear a face cover for medical reasons shall provide a doctor’s certification which details the respective medical condition(s) and specific related limitations. Each request will be considered on an individual basis and an alternate accommodation may be required.

Signage will be placed in areas requiring the use of face coverings. Gloves or other PPE must be used as needed when assisting students requires close contact. Pekin Public Schools will provide two (2) reusable masks to employees. Staff and students may use their own approved face covering.

Hand Hygiene

Frequent hand washing and hand sanitizing is 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, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol may be used. Staff must avoid touching their mouth, eyes, or nose as much as possible. Staff and students must hand sanitize upon entering the classroom each time. Hand sanitizer will be provided by the District. Each building will place signage reminding everyone of the need for proper hand hygiene in the appropriate areas. If assisting a student requires close contact, hand washing, or sanitizing must be done before and after contact with students.

Training

Each staff member will be required to complete safety training related to the district's physical distancing, face covering and hand hygiene procedures provided by Unity Point. Each building will provide training to staff that is specific to their unique circumstances. Hand hygiene and physical distancing will be included in our curriculum to help educate our students on the importance of proper hand hygiene and personal safety. Employees will also be trained on the proper way to disinfect their individual workstations if they choose to do so.

Health Screenings

Only students and staff who are healthy should report for in-person learning. Students and staff with any of the following symptoms of COVID-19 must remain home:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- A measured temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Nausea or vomiting
- Known close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19

When absences are reported along with COVID-19 diagnoses and exposure, attendance personnel must request and parents must report specific symptoms. This information must be documented and shared with the appropriate personnel. In accordance with state and federal guidance, staff and students who are sick should not return to school until they have met criteria to return. CDC and IDPH guidelines for students who were suspected of having COVID-19, whether they were tested or not, state that **72 hours** must elapse from resolution of fever without fever-reducing medication and 10 days must pass after symptoms first appeared. Families that have medically fragile and immunocompromised students must consult their medical provider prior to attending school.

Students or staff returning from illness related to COVID-19 must call to check in with the school building principal prior to being allowed back into the building following quarantine. Any student or staff member who begins to exhibit a high fever associated with COVID-19 like symptoms must report to a specifically designated area, following the building procedure. This includes any approved before or after school activities. Students will be provided a face covering and will remain in the quarantine area until a parent or guardian picks the student up or alternative transportation home is arranged. Staff will remain in the quarantine area until they are able to leave. These individuals must self-monitor and return to school according to the IDPH guidelines. A doctor's note may be required for staff returning to work.

Staff who has had contact with someone who is positive for COVID-19 must notify their building principal or supervisor immediately.

Temperature and symptom screenings are required for all students and staff prior to entering the building. Staff may self-certify that they are free of COVID-19 symptoms and do not have a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher. Individuals who have a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, a cough or shortness of breath; or are exhibiting any two (2) of these symptoms; chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea, may not enter buildings.

Individuals who exhibit these symptoms must be referred to a medical provider for evaluation, treatment, and information about when they can return to school.

Illness and Diagnosis Monitoring

Schools must develop a tracking procedure 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. This process must ensure that all CDC and local health authority criteria for discontinuing home isolation or quarantine are met before a student or staff member returns to school. Tracking methods must include checking in with the school nurse upon return to school to verify resolution of symptoms and that any other criteria for discontinuation of quarantine have been met. Tracking must take place prior to a return to the classroom. The district will communicate this process to all members of the school community prior to the resumption of in-person learning.

Visitor Plan

Visitors must be restricted to authorized personnel only. Visitors to any building must always wear an appropriate and approved face covering and report directly to the main office for a wellness screening which includes a temperature check. Visitors will remain in the main office or other designated area for the duration of the visit. Students or staff will be asked to meet the visitor to conduct business as needed. Visitors will not have access to the building in general or student pods as to maintain physical distancing. This will be in addition to the normal sign in procedures.

All visitors entering the school building will follow these steps:

Step #1: Ask an individual if he or she washed their hands or used alcohol-based hand sanitizer on entry?

- If YES then go to Step #2
- If NO then please ask them to do so and proceed to Step #2

Step #2: Ask the individual if they have any of the following symptoms?

- Cough and/or shortness of breath
- OR at least TWO of these symptoms
 - Fever
 - Shaking with chills
 - Headache

- Loss of taste or smell
 - Muscle pain
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- If YES then restrict them from entering the school building
 - If NO to all of the above then proceed to Step #3

Step #3: Check temperature for a fever of 100.4 or higher

- If YES then restrict them from entering the school building
- If NO then proceed to Step #4

Step #4: Allow entry in the school building and remind the individual to:

- Wash their hands or use hand sanitizer throughout their time in the building
- DO NOT shake hands with, touch or hug individuals during their visit

General Classroom Guidance through all Stages (more details to be determined at the school building level)

Teachers must assign student seating and require students to remain in these seats to the greatest extent possible. Teachers must develop a marked path of travel inside the classroom to ensure student social distancing as students enter and exit the classroom. Only supervisors and staff who are required for instruction are allowed to be in classrooms. Students must be discouraged from bringing toys from home to school.

The following guidelines must be considered for each location:

Pre-Kindergarten (PK) classrooms

- Classroom areas must be clearly marked to show where to sit, stand or line-up for 6 foot spacing
- Students will remain with the same classroom group throughout the day and services will take place in the classroom when feasible
- Common areas must be clearly marked to show where to stand or line-up for 6 foot spacing
- Restroom and hand washing breaks must be scheduled and coordinated throughout the day
- Recess must be scheduled and coordinated by classroom to minimize student mixing and playground equipment must not be used
- Hand sanitizing must occur whenever anyone enters the classroom
- Classrooms will be cleaned after each use • Building staff must review their student pick up and drop off procedures

Kindergarten to 8th grade classrooms

- Seating must be arranged 6 feet apart and must all be facing the same direction as feasible
- Common areas and tables must be clearly marked to show where to sit, stand or line up for 6 foot spacing
- Students will remain with the same classroom group throughout the day,

Teachers will change classrooms rather than students during passing time

- Restroom and hand washing breaks must be scheduled and coordinated throughout the day

- Recess must be scheduled and coordinated by grade level to minimize student mixing and playground equipment must not be used
- Hand sanitizing must occur whenever anyone enters the classroom
- School supplies must not be shared between students or staff
- Classrooms will be cleaned daily

All Hallways, Main Office, and Common Areas

- Six feet physical distancing
- Face coverings will be required for all
- Areas will be clearly marked to indicate safe distancing for students
- Health screens will take place for visitors
- Clearly visible signage reminding everyone of physical distancing and face covering usage at entryways, hallways, classrooms, and common areas
- Playground equipment will be made unavailable for use
- Only Authorized personnel will have access to buildings. Visitors will be **as needed only** – and will be restricted to a main office area (Clearly visible signage at each entryway)
- Students will be restricted to specific areas as identified by the building principal
- High touch areas will be cleaned throughout the day

Cafeteria

- Six feet physical distancing
- A meal procedure plan must be developed.
- Cafeteria must be cleaned in between use
- Areas will be clearly marked to indicate safe distancing for students
- Clearly visible signage reminding everyone of physical distancing and face covering usage at entryways, hallways, classrooms, and common areas
- Face coverings required (if not eating)

Restrooms

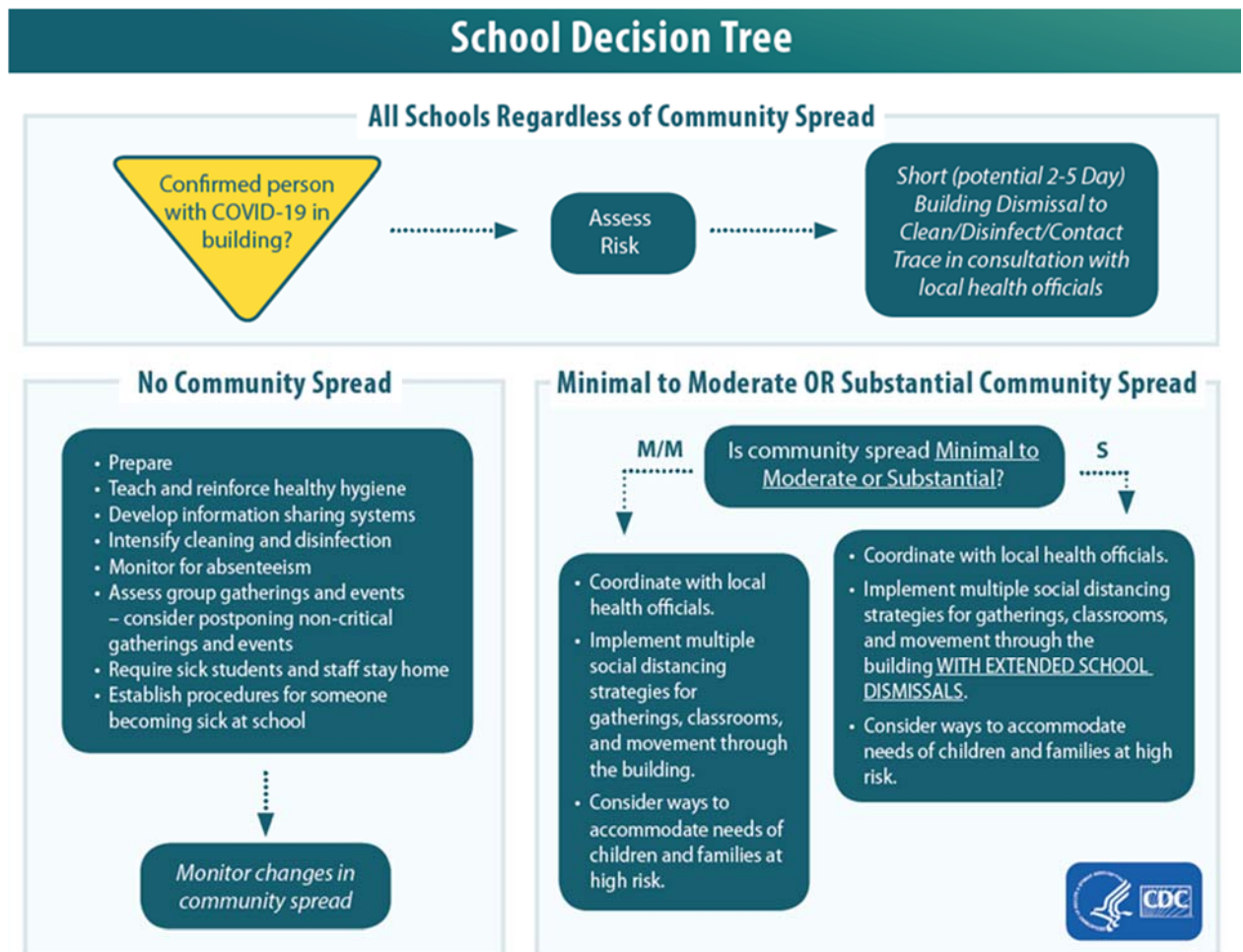
- Six feet physical distancing
- Face coverings will be required for all
- Areas will be clearly marked to indicate safe distancing for students
- Clearly visible signage reminding everyone of physical distancing and face coverings
- Restroom and hand washing breaks must be scheduled and coordinated as feasible
- High touch areas will be cleaned throughout the day
- Restrooms must be assigned to student groups as feasible

Shared Objects

Students and staff are restricted from borrowing or sharing any items. The CDC recommends that electronic devices, toys, books, and other games or learning aids not be shared. Electronics, including, but not limited to, tablets, touchscreens, keyboards, remote controls, lunchroom keypads, door entry systems, etc., must be cleaned before and after use. Items that must be shared or communally used, must be cleaned after use and individuals must perform hand hygiene between uses. Utilizing hand sanitizer before and after use of books or library material is recommended. Do not use items like play food, dishes, and utensils. Instead use materials that can be thrown out, cleaned after one use, or labeled for individual use. Machine washable cloth toys must be used by one individual at a time and cleaned in between uses or not be used at all.

School Closure Plan

Pekin Public Schools must be prepared for a short-term closure, regardless of community spread, if an infected person has been in a school building. In this circumstance, the CDC recommends the following procedures regardless of the level of community spread.



Coordinate with local health officials

Once learning of a COVID-19 case in someone who has been in a school, Pekin Public Schools will immediately notify local health officials. These officials will help administrators determine a course of action for the school and programs.

- Assistant Superintendent of Schools will notify the Tazewell County Health department of the positive case of COVID-19
- The two entities will collaborate to confirm the positive COVID-19 case and to what degree the Pekin Public Schools Positive Case Plan will be implemented.

School Dismissal

The school, grade level, or classroom will be dismissed for 2-5 days. This initial short-term dismissal allows time for Pekin Public Schools and the local health officials to gain a better understanding of the COVID-19 situation impacting the school. Local health officials will help the school determine appropriate next steps, including whether an extended dismissal duration is needed to stop or slow further spread of COVID-19.

- Schools are not expected to make decisions about dismissal or canceling events on their own. Pekin Public Schools along with the Tazewell County Health Department recommendations for the scope (e.g., a single school, multiple schools, or the full district) and duration of school dismissals will be made on a case-by-case basis using the most up-to-date information about COVID-19 and the specific cases in the community.
- During any school dismissal, all extracurricular and other school related activities will be cancelled.
- During any school dismissal staff, students, and their families are discouraged from gathering or socializing anywhere. This includes group childcare arrangements, as well as gathering at places like a friend's house, a favorite restaurant, or the local shopping mall.
- During any school dismissal, full virtual learning will continue for all students M-F as scheduled.
- Meals will be offered as "grab-and-go" bagged lunches from a location to be determined for families affected by the school closure.

Communication Plan

Pekin Public Schools will coordinate with local health officials to communicate dismissal decisions and the possible COVID-19 exposure.

- This communication to the school community will align with the communication plan in the school's emergency operations plan.

- In such a circumstance, Pekin Public Schools will maintain confidentiality of the student or staff member as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act.
- Families will be notified of the planned duration of the closure and the anticipated return to in-person learning.

Cleaning and Disinfection

ABBCO custodial staff will follow the established cleaning procedures for building cleaning and disinfection.

- Close off areas used by the individuals with COVID-19 and wait as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection to minimize potential for exposure to respiratory droplets. Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area. If possible, wait up to 24 hours before beginning cleaning and disinfection.
- Cleaning staff will clean and disinfect all areas (e.g., offices, bathrooms, and common areas) used by the Individuals who are ill, focusing especially on frequently touched surfaces.
- If surfaces are dirty, they must be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

Extending the School Dismissal

Temporarily dismissing PK-8 schools is a strategy to stop or slow the further spread of COVID-19 in communities. The need to extend school closures will be made in collaboration with the Tazewell County Health Department.

- School dismissals and event cancellations may be extended if advised by local health officials. The nature of these actions (e.g., geographic scope, duration) may change as the local outbreak situation evolves.
- During school dismissals (after cleaning and disinfection), Pekin Public Schools may stay open for staff members (unless ill) while students stay home. Keeping facilities open: a) allows teachers to develop and deliver lessons and materials remotely, thus maintaining continuity of teaching and learning; and b) allows other staff members to continue to provide services and help with additional response efforts. Decisions on which, if any, staff may be allowed in the school will be made in collaboration with the Tazewell County Health Department.
- Administrators must seek guidance from local health officials to determine when students and staff will return to schools and what additional steps are needed for the school community. In addition, students and staff who are well but are taking care of, or share a home with someone with a case of COVID-19 must follow instructions from local health officials to determine when to return to school.

Human Resources

Staff Return Plan

The District will make every effort to follow all CDC and IDPH guidelines regarding district employees who fall under one or more of the “High-Risk” categories for susceptibility to COVID-19 such as:

- People 65 years and older
- People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
- People who have serious heart conditions
- People who are immunocompromised
- People with liver disease
- People with diabetes
- People with chronic kidney disease
- Many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications
- People with severe obesity (Body Mass Index [BMI] of 40 or higher)

An employee’s request for a special accommodation (i.e. to request to stay home, work from home, or be granted modified hours) MUST be sent to the HR Office for review and consideration in the same way that “absence” requests are made in writing. Absences that are tied to COVID-19 concerns must be accompanied by a physician’s note, or official notice from a health agency containing relevant information/direction regarding the claimed condition. Eligible employees would be entitled to any COVID-19 related federal, state, and locally mandated leaves or accommodations. Otherwise, employees would be expected to use their accrued time off for their absence from work (Sick time, vacation time, personal, etc.).

Work from Home

If the District determines that it is necessary for an employee to work from home, the employee will be informed about the assignment in writing. The employee and his/her supervisor will take steps to plan the scope of work that can be performed from home, including ensuring that technology or other devices necessary for telecommuting are provided.

Liability Exposure for COVID-19 Related Issues

The District plans to consult extensively with its legal counsel and insurance carrier regarding all potential claims pertaining to the pandemic. Current knowledge of the COVID-19 contagion is that it is not easily attributable to any one environment or source. The average person interacts with the public in his/her personal, social, family, and work lives which means it would be difficult to isolate any one location as the source of the contagion.

Staffing Levels

The District also plans to monitor staffing levels within each building to ensure optimal operations for teaching and learning. In the event that staffing levels drop below the ability for the building to maintain optimal operations, the district will review options and make a decision.

Every effort shall be made to ensure that trained teacher substitutes are available in all employee categories to fill vacancies and/or absences that could be a result of the COVID-19 health precautions.

Technology

The availability of devices and access to the internet are key to student remote learning. Therefore, technology will play a vital role in student success. Under phases 3 and 4 of the Restore Illinois plan, student virtual learning will be an integral part of the return to school for our students. Restricted in person learning will be allowed during phase 3 and as a result most learning would be through remote means. As the State of Illinois enters phase 4, more in person learning will be allowed. We understand that families may elect for complete virtual learning rather than return to in person learning.

Devices and Web Access

Beginning on July 22, 2020, parents will be allowed to register students online. A device will be issued for both blended and all remote learning options. A mobile hotspot will be issued if requested for web access. Parents will need to maintain this device and web access in their homes for student access to lessons, personalized learning, and assignment retrieval. In the event of a COVID-19 related closure, paper packets may be made available as needed.

Device Distribution Plan

District devices will be distributed to students at their home school beginning on August 24, 2020 through August 28, 2020 during a scheduled attendance day. These devices will be prepared and sanitized by the tech center or designee prior to parent pick-up. These devices will be the responsibility of the parent until returned to the school. The parent will be financially responsible for any lost, damaged, or stolen devices, including the power cords. Students on a full remote schedule will be notified regarding device pick up locations and times. Pekin Public Schools will communicate the device return date to parents. If a family leaves the district, all district property must be returned to the home school. Technical support will be provided by the home school. Parents can contact their home school with any questions regarding their device.

Instruction

During Phase 3 of the Governor's Restore Illinois Plan, school districts could begin in person learning following guidelines from the IDPH, ISBE and the local Health Department. Pekin Public Schools has developed an instruction plan to allow for a return to in person learning for our students. This plan includes options for school schedules and in person learning along with options for parents to enroll in all remote learning. Online student registration begins on July 22, 2020. In-Person registration is on August 4, 2020 at either Wilson or

Broadmoor schools. The first day of school is scheduled on August 20, 2020 for students in Group A. The first day of school for students in Group B will be Friday, August 21, 2020. The instruction plan will be reviewed and evaluated on or before October 30, 2020.

Required Physicals

Due to effects of the recent physical distancing and shelter in place mandates, for the 2020-2021 school year, Pekin Public Schools is changing the Compliance Requirements date for physicals and immunizations. Traditionally, the State of Illinois has mandated that these be submitted no later than October 15th. Although we will follow the dates set by the State of Illinois, we encourage you to obtain these requirements as soon as possible.

Clerical staff and nurses will be keeping track of families who are not in compliance as is normal procedure.

Safety Education for Students

Students will be receiving grade level appropriate education and guidance for proper physical distancing, the use of PPE (face coverings) and proper hand hygiene during the first two (2) weeks of school. Each school will develop a plan for providing our students with school building specific safety measures to follow and why these measures are important.

Social and Emotional Learning

SEL supports will be provided for our students and staff. A process to identify students and staff who may be experiencing stress or trauma related to COVID-19 will be developed. We will continue to implement the SEL curriculum with the addition of an intentional focus on student's emotional health which may be impacted by COVID-19. Other SEL supports will be developed to add supports to our students as needed. Consistent surveys will be conducted with our students to identify those in need of support.

Music-Related Classes

Music related education will follow the most current IDPH/ISBE guidelines for student and staff safety measures. During phase 4, this will include utilizing outdoor spaces and limiting the number of students participating in these classes.

Physical Education, Gymnasiums, and Locker Rooms

Physical activity can support students' overall health and help reduce stress and anxiety. Whenever feasible and weather permitting, schools should select outdoor PE activities that allow physical distancing. If physical education must be taught inside, then consider utilizing markings on the gymnasium floor/wall/field to maintain distance between participants. Hand shaking, high fives, or other physical contact is prohibited. It is recommended that PE teachers use a megaphone or microphone to maximize physical distancing.

The use of shared equipment is not recommended. Any shared equipment must be cleaned between each use and disinfected at the end of each class with a focus on frequently touched surfaces such as keypads, hand weights, handles, etc. Students and staff must wash their hands or use hand sanitizer at the start and end of each class period or when hands are visibly dirty. Students must perform hand hygiene after the use of each piece of equipment. Schools must consider eliminating the need for use of locker rooms, as well as allowing students to participate in activities without changing clothing.

Special Needs

The Pekin Public Schools Department of Special Education understands the impact that COVID-19 has had on our most vulnerable student population. As a result, our Special Education Department is developing plans and procedures to address the various unique challenges the blended model creates.

Remote Learning

Beginning on July 22, 2020, parents will be allowed to register students online. Parents will indicate whether their child(ren) will be attending in-person learning or remain home for all remote learning. Any family that chooses to enroll in the all remote learning option will do so until October 30, 2020. The family must confirm that an appropriate internet connection is available for students to access with their district device. If internet connectivity is not available then a mobile hotspot will be provided by the district. Families will have until August 14th to enroll in full remote learning.

All families will indicate if they have a personal device necessary for remote learning should the need for a school closure arise. If a family does not have a device, they will be allowed to check a device out as per our device distribution plan.

In-Person Learning

During phases 3 & 4 of the Restore Illinois plan, school districts will be allowed to return to in-person learning following approved IDPH guidelines. Pekin Public Schools has adopted a two (2) phase plan for reopening schools for in-person learning. The first phase is a blended learning model that begins on August 20th, 2020 for Group A students and on August 21 for Group B students, and concludes on October 30th, 2020. If the district is able to transition to the second phase of in-person learning after October 30, 2020 students will attend school five days per week. In this case, all requirements and guidelines approved by the IDPH, CDC, and ISBE will be strictly followed. On or before October 30th, 2020, the Pekin Public Schools Task Force will determine which phase to enter at that time.

Pekin Public Schools has developed a blended learning model which places student and staff safety as a priority. The intent of the blended model is to allow students to attend school in person while maintaining CDC and IDPH guidelines for physical distancing through a reduced number of students in each building. By reducing student numbers, physical distancing will have the best opportunity for success. This can reduce the risk of an increase in the spread of COVID-19 to students and adults throughout the community. Each school would be responsible for developing their own unique physical distancing plans for their building. Face coverings for all individuals would be required. This requirement is subject to change as these guidelines

evolve. Classrooms will be cleaned and disinfected daily. Emphasis will be placed on high touch surfaces and common areas. Restrooms, cafeterias, and other common areas will be cleaned throughout the day.

The first day of school for the blended learning model will be Thursday, August 20, 2020 for students in Group A and Friday, August 21 for students in Group B. Families will have the option of choosing a 9-week full remote learning schedule during registration in July and August. Having an additional phase at the end of the first nine weeks allows Pekin Public Schools to assess our current COVID-19 strategies.

The traditional in-person learning model with phase 4 restrictions will be considered on or before October 30, 2020. This learning model will strongly recommend physical distancing of students in the classroom, hallway, cafeteria, and common areas. Each school would be responsible for developing their own unique physical distancing plans for their building. Face coverings for all staff would be required. This requirement is subject to change as these guidelines evolve. Classrooms will be cleaned and disinfected daily. Emphasis will be placed on high touch surfaces and common areas. Restrooms, cafeterias, and other common areas will be cleaned throughout the day.

Operations such as transportation and food services would be provided consistent with the traditional Education Model. The capacity of the school bus would be restricted under phase 4. Students with transportation as a related service and McKinney-Vento students would take priority. The school buses will be disinfected each evening at the end of the day. Meals will be made available for students enrolled in all remote learning and on remote learning days based on USDA approval.

Athletics will follow the guidelines provided by the IESA as per IDPH and CDC requirements.

Blended Learning Model Daily Schedule

August 20th - October 30th, 2020

Schools	Daily Schedule
Preschool Family Education Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• AM Session 8:40 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.• PM Session 12:40 p.m. - 3:10 p.m.
<p>Primary Schools (K-3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Altman▪ Dirksen▪ Jefferson▪ Smith▪ Starke▪ Willow	8:40 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.
<p>Intermediate School (4-6)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Washington▪ Wilson	8:10 a.m. - 2:10 p.m.
<p>Junior High Schools (7-8)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Broadmoor▪ Edison	8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Blended Learning Model for Grades 2-8

Grades 2-8 Students						Start Date: August 20, 2020
Grade Level	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
	Group A In school buildings for In-Person Learning	Group B In school buildings for In-Person Learning	Group A In school buildings for In-Person Learning	Group B In school buildings for In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning Days alternating in school buildings until October 16 (Group A-First Friday and Group B-The next Friday)	
	Group B Remote Learning	Group A Remote Learning	Group B Remote Learning	Group A Remote Learning		
Primary	8:40 a.m.-2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.-2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.-2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.-2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.-2:40 p.m.	
Intermediate	8:10 a.m.-2:10 p.m.	8:10 a.m.-2:10 p.m.	8:10 a.m.-2:10 p.m.	8:10 a.m.-2:10 p.m.	8:10 a.m.-2:10 p.m.	
Junior High	8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	

Blended Learning Model for Grades K-1

Grades K-1 Students						Start Date: August 20, 2020
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Grade Level	Group A In school buildings for In-Person Learning	Group B In school buildings for In-Person Learning	Group A In school buildings for In-Person Learning	Group B In school buildings for In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning Days alternating in school buildings until October 16 (Group A-First Friday and Group B-The next Friday)	
	Group B Learning Packet	Group A Learning Packet	Group B Learning Packet	Group A Learning Packet		
Primary	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	

Blended Learning Model for Grades K-8 Students with Special Needs

Grades K-8 Students with Special Needs						Start Date: Thursday, August 20th, 2020
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Grade Level	In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning	
Primary	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	
Intermediate	8:10 a.m.- 2:10 p.m.	8:10 a.m.- 2:10 p.m.	8:10 a.m.- 2:10 p.m.	8:10 a.m.- 2:10 p.m.	8:10 a.m.- 2:10 p.m.	
Junior High	8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	

Blending Learning Model for Grades K-8 Students English Language Learners

Grades K-8 Students English Language Learners						Start Date: <i>Thursday, August 20th, 2020</i>					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday						
Grade Level	In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning						
Primary	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.	8:40 a.m.- 2:40 p.m.						
Intermediate	8:10 a.m.- 2:10 p.m.	8:10 a.m.- 2:10 p.m.	8:10 a.m.- 2:10 p.m.	8:10 a.m.- 2:10 p.m.	8:10 a.m.- 2:10 p.m.						
Junior High	8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.	8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.						

Preschool Family Education Center Schedule

Preschool Family Education Center						Start Date: <i>Thursday, August 20th, 2020</i>					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday						
Sections	In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning	In-Person Learning						
AM Sections	TBD										
PM Sections	TBD										

All extra-curricular activities will follow the most current IDPH/ISBE guidelines.

Athletics will follow the guidelines provided by the IHSA and the IESA.

Operations

Food Services

The following plan outlines meal distribution for the blended learning model. This distribution plan is dependent on approval from the U.S Department of Agriculture or USDA. Currently, the USDA is allowing non-congregate meals during the summer months. We are anticipating that the USDA will allow for us to provide meals to students for the days they will be in attendance.

- Students attending A schedule will take home Tuesday meals on Monday, Thursday & Friday meals on Wednesday.
- Students attending B schedule take home Wednesday meals on Tuesday, Monday & Friday meals on Thursday.

Each building will design their own unique meal distribution plan for their location in conjunction with the Food Services Team and according to USDA standards.

Transportation

The City of Pekin Bus Company has played a critical role in the operations for many aspects of our student's education. Transportation has developed several safety protocols to keep our staff and students safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

School Bus Sanitation

The transportation sanitation plan will include daily disinfection of its school bus fleet. School buses will be disinfected daily at the end of routes and allowed to sit overnight for maximum disinfectant dwell time.

Health Screenings

Daily temperature and symptom screenings are required for all individuals prior to boarding any school bus. We are currently investigating whether individuals will be able to self-certify that they are free of COVID-19 symptoms and do not have a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher. Individuals who have a fever greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, a cough or shortness of breath; or who are exhibiting any two (2) these symptoms; chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea, may not board a school bus.

Physical Distancing During Transport during the Blended Learning Model

Following the CDC guidelines, school buses must be allowed to have no more than 50 students on board. As a result of these guidelines designed to protect students and staff from the spread of COVID-19, the capacity on our school buses may be reduced. We will be prioritizing students who have transportation written into their IEP and students classified under the McKinney-Vento law. These students will be routed first, and all other students will be routed on a first come first serve basis until the capacity of the vehicle has been reached. With the blended model, the number of students attending school each day will be reduced. Therefore, we anticipate being able to accommodate the majority of transportation requests.

Face Coverings

All individuals onboard school buses (students, staff, and supervisors) will be required to properly wear a nose and mouth covering at all times, unless they are younger than 2 years of age; have trouble breathing; or are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance. Face coverings must be worn at all times on board the school bus even when physical distancing is maintained. Students and staff who are not able to wear a face cover for medical reasons shall provide a doctor's certification which details the respective medical condition(s) and specific related limitations. Each request will be considered on an individual basis and an alternate accommodation may be required. This requirement is subject to change as IDPH/ISBE guidelines evolve. Drivers and monitors may use face shields in lieu of masks.

Communications

The purpose of our communication plan is to keep families and stakeholders informed of the current phase of the Restore Illinois Plan and how that relates to the return to school in the fall.

Our current communications will follow these items:

To be determined

Scheduling/Enrollment

When assigning the A/B schedule, family ID and address will be used to ensure students at the same address will be scheduled on the same days across the district. This process will make sure that families are not divided on the A/B schedule.

Facilities

All ABBCO staff will be trained on the return to school guidelines, where applicable. These procedures will include extra sanitation efforts using certified EPA products in both low/high contact areas including:

- Desktops
- Door Handles
- Countertops
- Handrails

- Light Switches
- Drinking Fountains
- Restroom Fixtures

Building custodians and cleaning personnel will conduct daily cleaning and disinfection. An EPA approved cleaner will be used for disinfection along with our standard cleaning protocols. All frequently touched surfaces (e.g., door handles/knobs, desktops/tabletops, countertops, light switches, pencil sharpeners, computer keyboards, hands-on learning items, phones, toys, cubbies/coat and backpack areas, sinks and faucets) will be cleaned on a regular basis. Restrooms, hallways, cafeterias, and common areas will be cleaned throughout the day. Soft surfaces such as carpets and rugs will be disinfected daily. Items such as cloth toys or other cloth material items that cannot be disinfected must not be used.

Child Care

Pekin Public Schools is partnering with the Tazewell County Health Department's PEAK program to explore childcare options for parents and staff. The partnership is exploring many options to support an A/B style schedule.

RESOLUTION NO. 21:890

**RESOLUTION TO ADOPT SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN
FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR**

WHEREAS, the Pekin Public Schools District No. 108 ("District 108") utilized a period of remote learning for students during the spring of 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, current guidance ("State Guidance") from the Illinois Department of Public Health ("IDPH") and the Illinois State Board of Education ("ISBE") allows school districts to return to in-person instruction for the 2020-2021 school year; and

WHEREAS, the State Guidance sets forth certain recommended protocols for schools to follow until the COVID-19 pandemic has been contained; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of District 108 ("Board") in cooperation with its administration, staff and other stakeholders has developed a plan for reopening and resuming in-person instruction.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF PEKIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT NO. 108, TAZEWELL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, as follows:

1. The Plan of Reopening, attached hereto as Exhibit A, is hereby adopted and shall be utilized to commence the 2020-2021 school year; and
2. The Superintendent is hereby authorized to make any necessary changes to the plan to comply with any new or revised guidance from IDPH or ISBE.

PASSED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF PEKIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT NO. 108 THIS 16th DAY OF JULY, 2020 BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: 6

NAYES: 0


ABSENT: Mr. Root

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF PEKIN
PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 108**

By: 

President, Board of Education

ATTEST:



Secretary, Board of Education