

# Superintendent Report

Update for the Community  
By: Dr. Scott Schwartz  
August 24, 2021



**GAVIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 37**



# We're Back!

New Teacher Orientation - Aug 20

Staff Returned - Aug 23-24

Teacher Meet and Greet - Aug 24, 3pm-6pm

First day - Aug 25 (half day)



**GAVIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 37**





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# Reconnect, Support, Accelerate

- Top Priorities
  - Get our students back into school - with as few disruptions to learning as possible
  - Safe learning conditions
  - Focus on teaching and learning
  - Support learning and SEL needs of staff and students
  - Clearly communicate





## Focus on Learning

- First time in school full time since March 2020
- Focus on reading, math, writing, science, social studies, fine arts, art, music, STEM, PE, and more!



# ISBE and IDPH Guidance - August 9, 2021

## Revised Public Health Guidance for Schools

PART 5 — SUPPORTING THE FULL RETURN TO  
IN-PERSON LEARNING FOR ALL STUDENTS  
AUGUST 2021



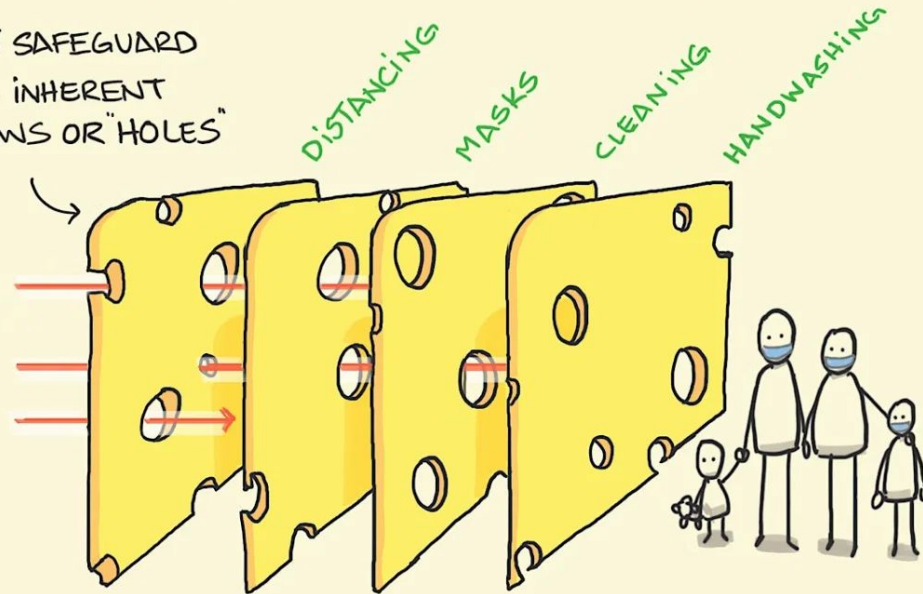
**GAVIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 37**



# THE SWISS CHEESE MODEL

FOR UNDERSTANDING ACCIDENTS AND IMPROVING SAFETY

ANY SAFEGUARD  
HAS INHERENT  
FLAWS OR "HOLES"



PROBLEMS OCCUR WHEN MULTIPLE "HOLES" LINE UP

MODEL: J REASON

sketchplanations



# Layered Mitigation Strategies

**A Collection of Guidance has been provided by the CDC, IDPH, LCPHD, and ISBE:**

- Promoting COVID-19 vaccination for those eligible
- Consistent and correct use of masks by all, regardless of vaccination status
- Physical distancing of least 3 ft.
- Screening testing in K-8 schools - with consent only
- Clear contact tracing protocols for quarantining
- Proper hand hygiene
- Staying home when sick and getting tested
- Improved ventilation
- Routine cleaning with disinfection

# Masks and Mask Breaks

Per Governor's Executive Order, masks are required for all staff, students, and visitors regardless of vaccination status.

Exceptions -

- When eating
- When outdoors
- ADA protections, too





Shield is a COVID test that identifies the virus with 99% accuracy (pre-symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals, too).

- 342 students with consent as of 8/24/21
- Wonderful safety mitigation



# Close Contacts and Quarantining

- **Close Contact** - For K-12 school setting, unvaccinated individuals who are less than 3' from a positive individual for more than 15 cumulative minutes in a 24-hour period as long as both students were engaged in “consistent and correct mask use, physical distancing...”
  - Exceptions
    - Quarantining required only for unvaccinated
    - 3ft. only applies to students in classrooms
- 4 Scenarios for Quarantining



# The CDC describes three options for quarantine:

- **Option 1:** Quarantine at home for 14 calendar days. Date of last exposure is considered day 0.
- **Option 2:** Quarantine for 10 calendar days after the close contact's last exposure to the COVID-19 case. Date of last exposure is considered day 0.
  - The individual may end quarantine after day 10 if no symptoms of COVID-19 developed during daily monitoring.
  - SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing is recommended and may be required by the local health department.
  - The individual can maintain physical distancing and masking at all times when returning to school; for classrooms where masking is strictly adhered to as required, physical distance of 3 to 6 feet is acceptable for return.
- **Option 3:** Quarantine period is for seven calendar days after the last exposure if:
  - No symptoms developed during daily monitoring AND the individual has a negative SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic test (PCR) that was collected within 48 hours of exposure day 7 (starting on day 6 or after).
  - The individual is responsible for obtaining a copy of the negative results for documentation purposes.
  - The individual can maintain physical distancing and masking at all times when returning to school; for classrooms where masking is strictly adhered to as required, physical distance of 3 to 6 feet is acceptable for return.



# Test to Stay Strategy Instead of Quarantining

Test to Stay may be an option under special circumstances and authorized by the LCHD

- Close contacts are permitted to remain in school as long as they have negative COVID test results.
- Test on days 1, 3, 5, and 7 from date of exposure by a PCR, rapid antigen, or molecular (EUA)-approved test.
- Test to Stay is only applicable when both the COVID-19-confirmed individual and close contact were engaged in consistent and correct use of well-fitting masks and social distancing.
- Test to Stay may be used for any indoor exposure while at school or on the bus.
- This option is not available if the individual was exposed to COVID outside of school.
- Students engaged in Test to Stay after an exposure may participate in extracurricular activities.
- Local health departments have the authority to order a classroom-only Test-to-Stay protocol after assessing the risk of an individual situation.
- If symptoms form, Test to Stay ends and the individual must quarantine.

# QUARANTINE GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF

All students and staff should  
continue to follow the 3Ws:



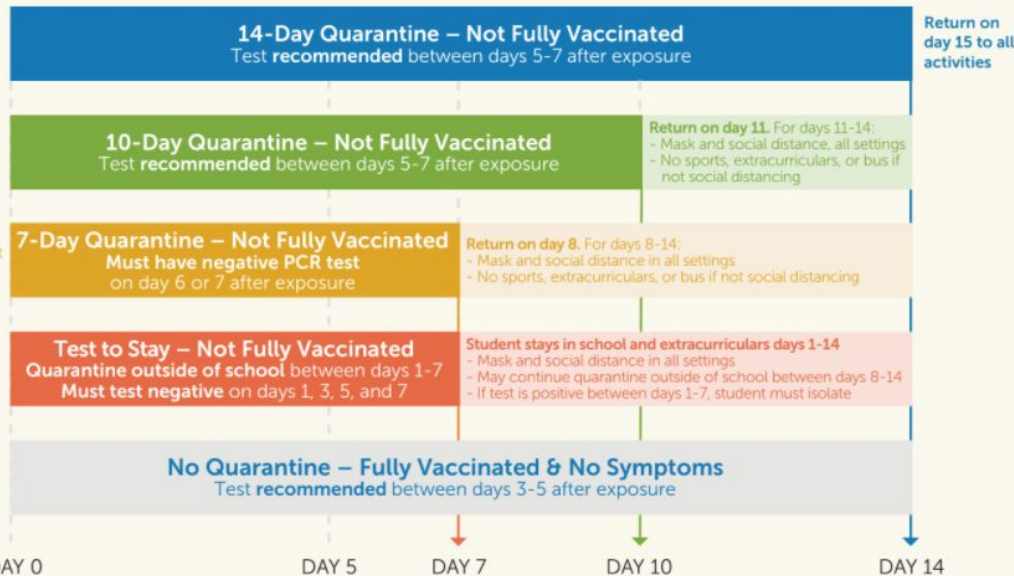
## Requirements

No requirements.  
This is the ideal  
option.

Must mask and social  
distance upon return.

Masks worn at time of  
exposure. Must work  
with Health Department  
contact tracers. Must  
mask and social  
distance upon return.

Masks worn at time of  
exposure. Must be  
school-related  
exposures. School  
has testing on site.

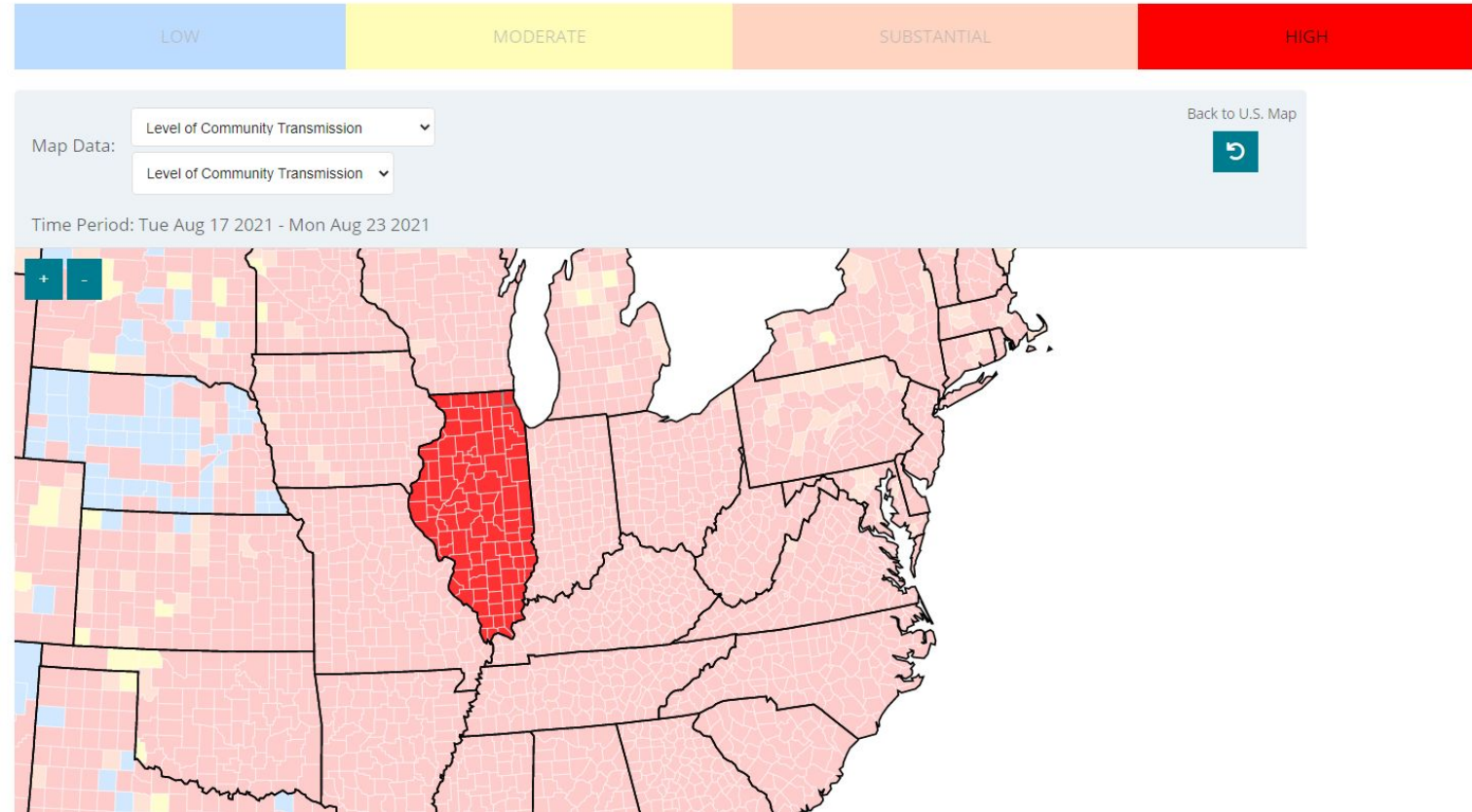


**Students should continue to monitor for symptoms through day 14.**

If symptoms develop, get tested. If a student tests positive at any point, they should isolate for 10 days.

*Guidelines are subject to change on a case-by-case basis or if an outbreak occurs.*

## Level of Community Transmission in Lake County, Illinois



# GAVIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 37



# Data as of this morning...

| Indicator  | Low<br>Transmission<br>Blue | Moderate<br>Transmission<br>Yellow                  | Substantial<br>Transmission<br>Orange | High<br>Transmission<br>Red   |
|--|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Total new cases<br>per 100,000<br>persons in the<br>past 7 days <sup>2</sup>       | 0-9                         | 10-49   | 50-99                                 | ≥100<br><b>60041</b><br><b>282.7/100K</b><br><br><b>Lake County</b><br><b>134.38/100K</b> |
| Percentage of<br>NAATs that are<br>positive during<br>the past 7 days <sup>3</sup> | <5.0%                       | 5.0%-7.9%<br><br><b>Lake County</b><br><b>5.42%</b> | 8.0%-9.9%                             | ≥10.0%<br><br><b>60041</b><br><b>12.72%</b>   |

# Frequently Asked Questions

- **Are masks required?** - Per Executive Order, yes
  - to be reviewed every few weeks based on data after Executive Order expires
  - No masks required outdoors.
  - **ON BUS** all must be masked per CDC
- **Will COVID-19 vaccinations be required?** - Not at this time
- **Will quarantine after travel be required?** - Not at this time
- **Are we doing routine weekly testing?** Yes, with parental consent). Optional for staff



# Frequently Asked Questions

- **Is it possible to have different rules at different schools?** - Possibly, depends upon school transmission rates --we will mitigate locally at specific schools as needed
- **Will we provide remote learning?** - For students who need to quarantine (unvaccinated) - we will have live streaming set up. We will provide “eyes and ears into the classroom” if a child is quarantined due to a positive COVID-19 test or if they are a close contact per CDC guidance

# Frequently Asked Questions

- **Will we have recess (Pre-K-8)?** - Yes; we will revisit if transmission increases
- **Will we have to keep seating charts for classes, buses, lunch, etc. for contact tracing purposes?** - Yes
- **Will lunch require 6ft distancing?** - As Best Possible
- **Are we still offering testing for symptomatic individuals?** Yes, just like last year, we will have Binax testing available
- **Will students be changing classes in middle school?** - Yes

# Frequently Asked Questions

- **Are we going to require students to wash or sanitize hands upon arrival and before eating?** - Yes, we need to encourage good hygiene
- **Will all staff and students still be required to self-certify?** - No, if a student arrives on campus, we are bringing them into the building under the assumption that they are symptom free. If a staff member notices a child with symptoms related to COVID-19, that child will be asked to go to the nurse immediately for further review.
- **Will we be able to resume before/after school clubs/activities in person?** - Yes
- **Will students be allowed to have snacks?** - Yes

# Frequently Asked Questions

- **Can students take masks off during outdoor recess and outdoor PE if they are not vaccinated?** - Yes; no masks needed outdoors
- **Will recess still need to be structured so pods (classes) are together?** - Outdoors no, indoors yes for contact tracing
- **Are we relaxing material sharing for recess & classes?** - Yes
- **Will we have our meet the teacher events at the beginning of the year?** - Yes, with masks

# Next Steps

- Continue to gather Shield consent - Google Form
- Continue to promote vaccinations
  - Leading public health prevention strategy
- Continue to monitor transmission weekly and reevaluate indoor mask wearing and other mitigation efforts
- Get back to teaching & learning - and avoid disruptions to learning!





**GAVIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 37**



# The Basics of ESSER - Public Hearing - \$1,320,924

- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds
- ESSER and ESSER II were made available in 20-21; ESSER III as of July 1, 2021
  - ESSER and ESSER II = CARES Act
  - ESSER III = American Rescue Plan
- Designed for “preventing, preparing for and responding to COVID-19...uses include: hiring new staff and avoiding layoffs and developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with CDC guidance for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators and other staff.”
- “Not less than 20% of its total allocation is to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive after-school programs, or extended school year programs and ensure that such interventions respond to students’ academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on underrepresented student groups.”

# ESSER III Public Hearing - \$1,320,924

| Purchase | Rationale   |
|----------|---|
| Salaries | <p>Pay employee salaries for those directly related to supporting students SEL needs and staff instructional needs.</p> <p>Social Workers X2<br/>Psychologist<br/>Instructional Coach<br/>Interventionists X3</p> |

# ESSER III Public Hearing - \$1,320,924

| Purchase  | Rationale  |
|---|--|
| Technology (upgraded servers and 200 student devices)   | Making much needed upgrades to our servers and replenishing our student devices to best support teaching and learning needs. |
| Digital tools to monitor student SEL needs, assess student growth, and to allow for live streaming access when in quarantine. | Panorama Education - \$12,750<br>ECRA - \$12,457<br>Logitech Devices - \$11,000  |

# ESSER III Public Hearing

| Purchase   | Rationale                |
|--|--------------------------|
| Digital Tools to support student learning<br>After evaluating the impact of school closures and remote learning on students from assessment it was determined that students who were experiencing educational gaps would benefit from online subscriptions to support their individual needs.<br><u>Specifics:</u><br>NewsELA - \$12,550<br>Edmentum - \$20,778<br>ST Math - \$16,000<br>STEM Lab Curriculum and Equipment - TBD |                          |
| Human Capital Management Partnership - HumanEx Ventures  | \$75,000 for three years |



# ESSER III Public Hearing

| Purchase                                    | Rationale  |
|---|--|
| Leader in Me<br>(Years 2 and 3)             | Leader in Me provides elementary schools with a model and process that addresses common challenges that are unique to students during these formative years. Parents, educators, and school administrators are concerned with their child's physical, mental, social, and economic well-being, all of which are factors that can contribute to or hinder academic success. Teachers, staff, and administrators at Leader in Me Schools are empowered to provide support in all of these areas by creating a learning environment that addresses whole-child education with five (5) Core Paradigms. These paradigms influence the behavior of staff, students, and their families. |
| Summer School<br>2022                       | Summer school expenses to support the learning needs of students - Build off of the success of summer school 2021 program!   |
| After school<br>enrichment<br>opportunities | Providing additional opportunities to get reading, writing, and math support for students in need. Details are currently being worked out.   |