



Glen Crest Middle School

Updated: February 26, 2021

Background

At different times during the 2020-21 school year, Community Consolidated School District 89 has had students learning in a fully remote environment or a hybrid of in-person and remote learning, depending on local health conditions. Throughout the year, CCSD 89 has been working with district teams and consulting with health officials to ensure students can continue to move toward expanded in-person learning while supporting remote learners.

Starting March 22, CCSD 89 will increase the number of days middle-school students can be in the building. CCSD 89 will also allow students to learn remotely with the same teachers they have been working with this school year.

All of the safety procedures that have been in place throughout the school year (mandatory masks, social distancing, frequent sanitization, hand washing, self-certification tickets) will still be in place. Anyone who is positive for COVID-19, has COVID-19 symptoms, or been in contact with a person who is positive for COVID-19 will need to follow Illinois Department of Public Health Exclusion Guidelines.

In the new middle-school schedule, some students will be in classrooms where desks are less than six feet apart. The CDC now advises school districts to keep six feet of distance to the greatest extent possible. Additionally, the American Academy of Pediatrics now advises desks may be less than six feet apart if the school is using other layers of mitigation, including mandatory masks, and good air ventilation.

The district estimates with current in-person totals, desks would be six feet apart in about 80 percent of classrooms. If more students return in-person, fewer classes will have desks six feet apart. No desks will be less than three feet apart.

Decision factors

When planning for in-person learning, CCSD 89 staff continues to use a set of principles to guide the planning:

- Ensuring the safety of students and staff by following local, state, and federal guidelines
- Reducing community spread, as outlined by the Illinois Department of Public Health
- Ensuring a high-quality, engaging learning environment that provides consistent academic and social-emotional growth for both in-person and remote learners
- Creating a flexible plan that allows the district to adjust to community health conditions

Each part of the planning is dependent on the other and a shift in any of the areas can impact the entire process. Every learning environment has positives and limitations of educating during a pandemic.



Middle school expanded in-person learning

Middle school students will have an expanded in-person schedule starting March 22 and for the remainder of the 2020-21 school year. Students will also be able to remotely participate through the use of Zoom and live stream video.

In-person middle school students will be able to learn in the buildings for a full school day (7:50 a.m. to 2:35 p.m.) Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Students would keep the same schedule they currently use. Wednesday would remain an all-remote day so students could meet with teachers individually and in small groups. Remote students will continue to participate via live video.

Students will continue to learn with the teachers they began the year with, unless there was a change for academic reasons. In-person students will change classes during shortened, staggered passing periods. Classrooms will be grouped by grade level to reduce mixing.

Students will have access to all of their teachers throughout the day, including electives and PE. While in-person, students will follow all health requirements, including wearing a mask, socially distancing, and frequent sanitizing. Desks will be cleaned between classes. Students will not use lockers or locker rooms.

Remote learners: Remote learners will log on to school at the same time in-person learners start class on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. They will have both live and asynchronous learning. Remote learners will be watching live video of their classroom and their teacher's lessons. Remote learning students would be able to ask questions, participate in discussions, and complete group work.

Common to both in-person and fully remote learners

In both in-person and remote learning, students will receive grades and homework may be given. Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) or 504s will continue to receive services. Free lunches are available to both remote and in-person learners at all five CCSD 89 schools (3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Mondays; 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays).

Students or staff who are positive for COVID-19, students or staff who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and students or staff who have been in contact with a person who was positive for COVID-19 will be temporarily excluded from school, based on the Illinois Department of Public Health guidelines.

All health mitigation practices (mandatory masks, social distancing, frequent sanitization, hand washing, self-certification tickets) will still be in place. Schools will be cleaned throughout the day with a focus on high-touch areas.

The following pages are a summary of the in-person and remote learning environments. These charts are meant to give an overview of the two learning environments.

Middle school learning environment

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All in-person students will be able to attend classes Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays.• Students will learn remotely on Wednesdays so teachers can meet with individual students or small groups. There will not be a traditional “live” class schedule on Wednesdays.• Assignments will be posted in Google Classroom.• Some in-person students may have to Zoom into their class in a supervised overflow room (such as the library) to reduce class sizes. No students will be in an overflow room two periods in a row.• All classrooms will follow social distancing guidelines to the greatest extent possible.• All students and staff will wear masks.• Students can bring water bottles. Water fountains will be turned off.• Students will carry their backpacks. They will not use lockers.• Students will not change for PE. They will not use locker rooms.• Lunch will be eaten in classrooms or the cafeteria with six feet between students.• Students will bring their technology device (iPad or Chromebook) and headphones to and from school each day.• If a student needs to quarantine, they will learn remotely until they are cleared to return for in-person learning.• Assignments, grades, and feedback will be given and collected.• Attendance will be taken.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remote students will participate via live video at the same time as their in-person classmates on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.• Students will learn remotely on Wednesdays so teachers can meet with individual students or small groups. There will not be a traditional “live” class schedule on Wednesdays.• Assignments will be posted in Google Classroom.• Students will be able to ask questions, participate in discussions, and meet in small groups.• Assignments, grades, and feedback will be given and collected.• Attendance will be taken.

After-school clubs and activities

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Depending on group size, some clubs and activities could occur in-person.Clubs could meet remotely.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students may be able to participate in clubs that are meeting remotely.

Arrival and dismissal - students

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">There will be multiple staffed entry points at each school. Students will be assigned an entry door to allow for social distancing and screening. When arriving at school, students will report to their entry door.Students must present a self-certification ticket completed by a parent or guardian upon entry, indicating that neither the student nor their family members are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. Students who do not have a ticket will wait to enter the building until a guardian can be contacted.Students will enter the building and will receive hand sanitizer. After sanitizing hands, students will go to their classroom.Instructional assistants and nurses will be stationed at each entry point and will be trained on procedures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">If a student is reporting to school, he/she will be given hand sanitizer upon entry. The student should present a self-certification ticket when arriving at school.

Band, chorus, and orchestra

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Band, orchestra, and chorus lessons will continue to be taught virtually and in person.Some small band and orchestra ensembles and chorus groups may meet before or after school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Band, orchestra, and chorus lessons will continue to be taught virtually.

Cleaning

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Electrostatic cleaning daily with FDA-approved cleaners after lunch.Additional daytime custodial staff was added at the beginning of the year.Thorough cleaning/sanitization of all spaces daily.High-touch areas cleaned/sanitized throughout the day.Bathrooms cleaned/sanitized throughout the day.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Not applicable.

Exploratory and elective classes

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will attend their exploratory classes at the time they are scheduled.• Activities within each class may have to be modified to allow safety protocols to be followed.• Supplies will not be shared.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will attend their exploratory classes at the time they are scheduled.

Facilities

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Classrooms will be set up to meet social distancing to the greatest extent possible with excess furniture removed.• Hallways will be labeled for traffic flow.• Most bathrooms will have touchless flush valves and sinks, with paper towels for hand drying.• Outside air dampers will be set to maximize the percentage of dilution air brought into each space. The air will be circulated through the room at least four times each day in every classroom.• Hand sanitizer is available in every classroom and throughout the hallways.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not applicable.

Lunch/recess

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will eat lunch in their classroom or Spartan Hall.• If a student gets lunch at school, meals will be delivered to the classroom. Free lunches will be available to any student throughout the 2020-21 school year.• Desks will be cleaned before and after lunch.• Students will go outside for recess but not use any equipment. Students will maintain social distancing during this time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Free lunches are available to remote learners. Remote learners can pick up five free lunches and five free breakfasts from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Mondays, or 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays. Meals are available at all CCSD 89 schools and families can go to whichever school is most convenient for them.

Nursing

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The middle school will have a registered nurse as well as a health assistant.A specific room will be maintained for students with COVID-19 symptoms, separate from the nurse's office.Within the school environment, any student or staff member who shows symptoms will be immediately separated from the rest of the school population. Individuals who are sick, and any siblings, will be sent home. When interacting with students or staff who may be sick, school nurses and personnel will follow CDC guidance on standard and transmission-based precautions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Each school will have a registered nurse for checking staff and providing support to staff.

Response to Intervention/English language support

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students in need of intervention will receive those services during their ACE periods or through the service providers supporting them in the classroom.Students who need English language support will receive services through EL certified classroom teachers and during their ACE period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Interventions will be provided remotely.

Special education

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Special education services will be provided as outlined in the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP).Students and staff in some self-contained special education classes will need alternative Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).Some IEPs may need to be updated to account for change in services if students will receive "pull out" versus "push in" services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Special education services will be provided as outlined in the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP).Tele-therapy will be used for some therapies and services.

Staffing/resource changes

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Additional staff members will be hired to supervise overflow rooms.No other additional staff or resources needed, beyond what was added earlier in the school year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No additional staff or resources needed, beyond what was added earlier in the school year.

Staff health and safety expectations

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff will be required to wear masks all day. All staff will bring at least two masks to school each day.• Staff that has completed vaccination will no longer have to participate in weekly saliva surveillance testing.• Staff will be required to do a symptom check prior to coming to work and enter information through online app.• Staff will stay home if he/she, or any household members, display any symptoms not related to known pre-existing conditions (for example: migraines or allergies).• Staff will be required to wash hands/sanitize hands upon entry and exit; before and after meals; as well as after using the bathroom.• The district will be following all DuPage County Health Department recommendations for contact tracing and quarantine requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The district will be following all DuPage County Health Department recommendations for contact tracing and quarantine requirements.

Student/family health and safety expectations

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will be required to wear a mask that covers their nose and mouth whenever inside school, as well as on the bus. All students will bring at least two masks to school each day. Face shields and neck warmers are not allowed for day-to-day use.• Because students eat lunch at school and mix student groups, middle-school students will participate in saliva surveillance screening for the rest of the school year.• Families will screen students prior to sending them to school for COVID-19 symptoms.• Families will keep student home if he/she displays any symptoms not related to known pre-existing conditions (for example: migraines or allergies).• Students will be required to wash/sanitize hands upon entry and exit; before and after meals; and use of the bathroom.• The district will be following DuPage County Health Department recommendations for contact tracing and quarantine requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students will be required to wear masks, follow all health guidelines, and bring a self-certification ticket if they have to enter school.

Testing

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Because students eat lunch at school and mix student groups, middle-school students will participate in saliva surveillance screening for the rest of the school year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not applicable.

Transportation

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Up to 50 students on a bus with social distancing.• Daily cleaning of all buses.• Masks will be worn by students and bus driver.• Siblings transported together and may sit together.• Families can choose to drive or walk their student to school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not applicable.

Visitors

In-person learning	Remote learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No visitors will be allowed in classrooms.• Visitors to the building for the purpose of picking up or dropping off a student will ring the office and someone will come out to the visitor.• No school assemblies.• Academic guest speakers will be approved and screened.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Academic guest speakers will be approved and screened.