

Hollis Grade School #328

Return to School Plan 2021-2022



BOE Approved
August 10, 2021

All guidelines and recommendations are subject to change based on current conditions and as updated guidance is released.

Hollis Grade School will resume in-person instruction five days a week for the 2021-2022 school year. School hours will be 8:15 - 3:15. Hollis Grade School may need to move to remote learning as certain health circumstances arise amongst our staff, students, and families.

Wellness

Hollis Grade School 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 and students to follow, everyone's health and safety is dependent on each individual. Each of us will play a role in our collective safety.

Social Distancing and Movement

Hollis Grade School students and staff are encouraged to maintain social/physical distancing, when possible, throughout the school day. To effectively accomplish in-person instruction, although 3 feet of physical distance is preferred, space limitations in classrooms may result in less than 3 feet of physical distance, in some instances.

Face Coverings

On August 4, 2021, Governor Pritzker reinstated the mask mandate for all schools, K-12. This requires all people in a school building to wear masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status.

- Face coverings should cover the mouth and nose and fit snugly against the sides of the face with no gaps.
- Face coverings must be worn while riding the bus or van to and from school. Masking is universally required on buses and school-related transportation. The CDC's order requires that regardless of the mask policy at school, passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses.
- Reusable face coverings should be machine washed or washed by hand and allowed to dry completely after each use.
- A supply of disposable face coverings will be maintained in the event that a staff member, student, or visitor does not have one for use.

Hand Hygiene

Frequent hand washing and hand sanitizing are key to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Hollis Grade School will encourage frequent and proper handwashing and will ensure the availability of supplies, such as soap and paper towels, hand sanitizer, tissue, etc., for all grade levels and in all common areas of the building. Staff and students should clean hands as often as possible, including both before and after entering a new space, 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.

Hollis Grade School will place signage reminding everyone of the need for proper hand hygiene in the appropriate areas. Handwashing posters will be hung in bathrooms, hallways, classrooms, and other

areas, as appropriate. Resources for teachers and other staff members will be available to appropriately train students and to review handwashing procedures.

Student & Staff Illness

Only students and staff who are healthy should report to school. At home symptom screening is required for all staff and students. When you report to school, you are certifying that you are COVID symptom free and that you have not been a close contact to a diagnosed case. Students and staff with any of the following symptoms of COVID-19 must remain home:

- Fever
- Cough or shortness of breath
- Chills
- Fatigue
- Muscles & body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Known close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19.

Any staff or student who has a fever or any COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home from school.

Hollis Grade School will request specific symptom reporting when absences are reported along with COVID-19 diagnoses and COVID exposure. Information will be documented and shared with the local health department.

Any student or staff member who begins to exhibit COVID-19 like symptoms during the school day must report to the office. Students will remain in the quarantine area until a parent or guardian picks the student up or alternative transportation home is arranged. Students who are ill will not be allowed to ride the bus home. These individuals must monitor symptoms and return to school according to the IDPH guidelines. A doctor's note may be required for staff/students returning to school.

Students and staff who have had contact with someone who is positive for COVID-19 must notify the school administration immediately. IDPH guidelines for self-monitoring and self-quarantine must be followed for those unvaccinated individuals. Students who test positive or are symptomatic for COVID-19 must quarantine or isolate per CDC/IDPH guidelines. Parents of students in close contact will be notified. Anyone who is fully vaccinated or has had a positive diagnosis in the last 3 months and deemed a close contact will not need to quarantine, providing they do not exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms. Hollis will defer to the IDPH decision tree and the local health department for quarantine and close contact guidance, as guidelines are subject to change.

Visitor Policy

Visitors must be restricted to authorized personnel only. To the greatest extent possible, visitors will not have access to the building in general. If there is not a need for visitors to enter, Hollis Grade School will sign a student in and out. If a child needs to leave early for an appointment, the parent should call the school office when they arrive.

Day to Day Operations

Bus Transportation

Following the current CDC and IDPH guidelines, school buses must operate without restrictions except that **all riders must wear a face mask in order to ride.**

General Guidance: Classrooms All guidelines and requirements are subject to change as the ISBE, IDPH, and CDC guidelines evolve.

- Seating will be arranged for social distancing, when possible, and will arrange seating facing the same direction as much as possible.
- Common areas and tables will be spaced reasonably 3 feet apart. Windows will remain open for increased ventilation as much as possible.
- Restroom and handwashing breaks will be scheduled and coordinated throughout the day.
- Staggered transition times and schedules will be created.
- Hand sanitizing will occur whenever anyone enters the classroom.
- Classrooms will be cleaned at least daily.

General Guidance: Hallways, Office, and Common Areas All guidelines and requirements are subject to change as the ISBE, IDPH, and CDC guidelines evolve.

- Physical distancing must be observed to the greatest extent possible.
- High touch areas will be cleaned throughout the day.

General Guidance: Cafeteria The following guidelines must be considered. All guidelines and requirements are subject to change as the ISBE, IDPH, and CDC guidelines evolve.

- Physical distancing must be observed to the greatest extent possible.
- Handwashing breaks will be provided prior to entering the cafeteria.
- High touch areas will be cleaned throughout the day.
- Cafeteria seats will be assigned to students, and whenever possible, tables will be used at alternating lunch periods.

General Guidance: Gymnasium

- Physical distancing must be observed to the greatest extent possible.
- Students will participate in PE activities.
- When at all possible, PE class will take place outside.
- Any shared equipment will be sanitized between PE classes.

General Guidance: Recess

- Physical distancing must be observed to the greatest extent possible.
- Students will be allowed to play on the playground equipment
- All recess equipment will be sanitized between uses for each grade level.

General Guidance: Restrooms and Drinking Fountains

- Physical distancing must be observed to the greatest extent possible.
 - Restroom breaks will be scheduled to stagger use and maintain social distancing.
 - Restrooms will be sanitized on a regular schedule.
 - Signs will be posted to encourage hand hygiene procedures.
 - Reusable water bottles will be encouraged.
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Instruction

The State Superintendent has determined that days of instruction during a public health emergency must include at least 5 clock hours. This includes all in-person plans and remote learning plans. Learning activities may include, but are not limited to, in-person instruction, the teacher delivering instruction via recorded video or synchronous platform, remote small group work via platforms such as Google Meet, Zoom, or conference calls.

Hollis In-person instructional

- School hours will be 8:15 - 3:15.
- Students may arrive no earlier than 8:00 AM.
- Students will receive all traditional course offerings.

Hollis Remote Instruction

- Daily remote instruction is available to those students who are medically fragile.
 - Remote instruction is available to quarantined students on a limited basis. The frequency of remote instruction will vary by grade level. Instruction during a mandated quarantine will consist of a combination of synchronous and asynchronous.
 - Remote instruction and learning is not used for excused absences or vacations. It is a last resort to be used for quarantining situations.
 - Students will be held to the same expectations as those participating in the in-person model. This includes late work policies and grading policies.
 - Workloads will be the same regardless of the instructional model chosen.
 - Students will be responsible for watching live or pre-recorded lessons and submitting any accompanying work.
 - A device and web access will be required for the remote learning option. Parents will need to maintain this device and web access in their homes for student access to lessons, personalized learning, and assignment retrieval.
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Additional Information

- All extracurricular activities will be reviewed on a case by case basis for feasibility and will follow the most current IDPH/ISBE guidelines.
- All athletics will follow the guidelines provided by the IESA.

- All changes in our current plan or pertinent announcements from ISBE or IDPH will be communicated to families and staff via Blackboard Connect, school website, and Hollis social media. Please make sure your information is updated on our announcement platform.
- Hollis administration and staff will continue to monitor the situation. These guidelines and requirements are subject to change as recommendations are updated.

On August 4, 2021, Governor Pritzker reinstated the mask mandate for all schools, K-12. This requires all people in a school building to wear masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status. The tiers below will be used when the mask mandate is lifted.

Hollis Grade School will determine mitigation levels by consulting Peoria County and school metrics on a regular basis. Each mitigation level has additional levels of support to minimize transmission of COVID-19. These metrics include Test Positivity; New Cases per 100,000; New Cases; and Youth Case Increase. These metrics and the most current data can be accessed at <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/countyschool?county=Peoria>

Mitigation Level 1 - MINIMAL

At least two of the four IDPH Metrics for Peoria County are Minimal and/or Moderate and/or Hollis positive cases and quarantine counts are minimal and constant.

- Masks are recommended and may be suggested if closer than 3 feet for more than 15 minutes.
- 3 feet will be maintained between students whenever possible.
- Students and staff will complete at-home screening for COVID-19 symptoms.

Mitigation Level 2 - MODERATE

Three of the four IDPH Metrics for Peoria County are Moderate and/or Substantial and/or Hollis positive cases and quarantine counts are rising.

- Masks are recommended and may be suggested if closer than 3 feet for more than 15 minutes.
- 3 feet will be maintained between students whenever possible.
- Students and staff will complete at-home screening for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Students may not be allowed to congregate during unstructured times (i.e. passing periods).
- Passing periods may be staggered to allow for more social distancing in hallways.
- Field trips, assemblies, and some programs may be canceled or postponed.

Mitigation Level 3 - SUBSTANTIAL

Three of the four IDPH Metrics for Peoria County are Substantial and/or Hollis positive cases and/or quarantine counts are rising or are substantial.

- Masks will be required for ALL students and staff.
- 3 to 6 feet will be maintained between students whenever possible.
- Students will be symptom and temperature checked upon arrival to school. Staff will screen at home.
- Students will not be allowed to congregate during unstructured times.
- Passing periods will be staggered to allow for more distancing in the hallways.
- Field trips, assemblies, and some programs will be canceled or postponed.
- Remote learning may be considered as a last resort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.