

**UNION SCHOOL
DISTRICT #81**

1661 Cherry Hill Road
Joliet, Illinois 60433
Phone: 815-726-5218
Fax: 815-726-5056



Board of Education

President – Mr. Patrick Sweeney
Vice President – Mr. Jose J. Gonzalez
Secretary – Mrs. Tina Bakke
Treasurer – Ms. Linda Brunner
Mr. Christopher Gustafson
Mrs. Shelly Sinclair
Mrs. Carey Brock

Superintendent

Timothy A. Baldermann

*******OPEN HOUSE*******

Due to gathering restrictions, our open house will be held on **August 13th** from **2:00pm until 3:45pm** for students who have a last name beginning with **A thru K** and from **4:00pm until 5:45pm** for students who have a last name beginning with **L thru Z**. Please make sure everyone that attends is wearing a mask in the building. This is an opportunity for students/parents to meet their teacher and bring in their school supplies. I will also meet with the first group of parents in the gym at 3:15 pm and for the second group of parents at 5:15pm to answer questions about the school year. If you can't make your assigned time, please contact me at tbaldermann@union81.com to make other arrangements.

We ask that only the parents and students that will be attending school here this year come to the open house.

**UNION SCHOOL
DISTRICT #81**

1661 Cherry Hill Road
Joliet, Illinois 60433
Phone: 815-726-5218
Fax: 815-726-5056



Board of Education

President – Mr. Patrick Sweeney
Vice President – Mr. Jose J. Gonzalez
Secretary – Mrs. Tina Bakke
Treasurer – Ms. Linda Brunner
Mr. Christopher Gustafson
Mrs. Shelly Sinclair
Mrs. Carey Brock

Superintendent

Timothy A. Baldermann

July 15, 2020

Dear Union Families,

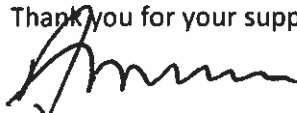
First, I hope all of you had a safe and pleasant summer. We look forward to seeing you all as soon as possible.

As unpredictable as the final months of the 2019-20 school year were, the opening months of this school year will bring with it many changes as well. I've compiled an information report that will, hopefully, answer the many questions you might have. As we've all seen with this ever-evolving situation, our plan is subject to change at a moment's notice.

I truly believe that in-person education provides the best opportunities for students to learn. That being said, the safety and health of our staff, students and families will always come first. We will take every precaution to maintain a productive and healthy environment conducive to learning.

This plan follows State mandates and CDC guidelines, as well as local policies. As always, don't ever hesitate to contact me at the school or via email at tbaldermann@union81.com

Thank you for your support!



Timothy Baldermann
Superintendent

School Calendar:

We will be following the school calendar you've been provided and will be having in-person school instruction beginning on August 17th for K-8th grade. Preschool will begin on September 8th. Due to the size of student population, we can accommodate a fairly normal schedule with some minor adjustments.

Attendance:

Students are required to be at school by 7:40am and will be dismissed at 2:30pm.

Transportation:

The buses will carry no more than 50 students. Masks are required to be worn on the bus. If you are dropping your student off, please have them in the car rider lane by the flagpole no later than 7:40am.

Instruction:

Our class sizes are small and will conform to the number of students allowed to gather in one space. We will be including some outdoor classroom instruction when weather permits.

Illness:

Any student with a temperature over 100.4 F will not be allowed in school. All students must be fever free for 24 hours in order to return to school. Please do not send your student if they are feeling ill. If a student arrives ill at school, we will be contacting you to come pick your student up. Please make sure you have reliable emergency contact persons available to come get your student if you are unable to do so yourself. All staff/students will have their temperature taken daily by a scanning device.

COVID-19 RETURN TO SCHOOL HEALTH PLAN FOR FAMILIES

The purpose of this policy is to outline health guidelines as they pertain to the re-opening of Union 81 after the Covid-19 school closures. These guidelines are designed to ensure and promote the safety, health, and welfare of our community, in accordance with Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) recommendations. Some components of this document may be altered to reflect current data and recommendations as new guidelines are posted.

Students, faculty, and staff will be required to stay home if they are sick. If an individual presents to school with the following symptoms, they will be sent home until return to school criteria (See #2 below) is met. Per IDPH-ISBE guidelines posted on June 4, 2020, all students, staff, and visitors will undergo symptom and temperature screening prior to entering the building. The Will County Health Department website is a valuable resource that is being updated regularly with new information [Will County Health Department & Community Health Center](#). As such, this information is subject to change based on new guidance from any of the aforementioned entities.

1. Symptoms Requiring Absence

- a. COVID-19 like symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath) or exposure to COVID-19, the individual **will be sent home**. Other symptoms may include sore throat, loss of taste/smell, headache, and fatigue.
 - i. Direct affected staff member or parent/guardian of affected student to call the IDPH COVID-19 hotline at 1-800-889-3931, or the Will County Public Health Department (C-UPHD) hotline at (815) 740-8977 for guidance regarding symptoms to determine if testing for COVID-19 is warranted.
- b. Exposure to COVID-19
 - i. Individuals must let the school office know if they have been in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19.
- c. Fever/chills/generalized body aches
 - i. Fever typically constitutes 100.4 degrees or higher.
- d. Sore Throat with a fever over 100.4 or visibly swollen glands.
- e. Consistent coughing with pain or fever.
- f. The first 24 hours of antibiotic treatment for contagious illness (strep throat, pink eye, etc.).
- g. Active vomiting or diarrhea.

2. When to Return

- a. **COVID-19 like symptoms:** (Per IDPH and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines).
 - i. **Untested with COVID-19 symptoms:**
 1. At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed with no fever, without use of fever-reducing medications, and improvement of symptoms.
A
N
D
 2. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
 - ii. **Tested positive with symptoms:**
 1. At least 10 days have passed since first symptoms
 2. At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications, and improvement of symptoms.
A
n
D
 3. Two (2) negative COVID tests in a row, at least 24 hours apart, or a doctor's note authorizing safe to return to school, or school related activities.
 - iii. **Tested positive without symptoms:**
 1. At least 10 days have passed since the date of the first positive test, and no symptoms have developed.
A
N
D
 2. Two (2) negative COVID tests in a row, at least 24 hours apart, or a doctor's note authorizing safe to return to school, or

school related activities.

iv. Exposure to COVID-19

1. 14 days have passed since the date of exposure, with no onset of symptoms (length of time during which symptoms will appear). If the exposure was from a member of your household, an additional 14 days have passed since the positive person was released from quarantine.

b. Other symptoms/non-COVID illness:

- i. At least 24 hours have passed with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- ii. After 24 hours on antibiotics.
- iii. After 24 hours since the last episode of vomiting or diarrhea.
- iv. With the doctor's note of clearance.

3. Non-pharmacological Intervention Recommendations for Communicable Disease

- a. Stay home when you are sick.
- b. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- c. Cover your cough or sneeze with your elbow or a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Wash your hands with soap and water.
- d. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- e. Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds, and dry them
- f. If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer.
- g. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using regular household cleaning sprays or wipes (ex: toys, desks, door handles, counters).
- h. Ensure all vaccines are up to date.
- i. Promote non-contact methods of greeting.
- j. Practice physical distancing (stay at least 6 feet away from other people).

4. When to wear a mask/face covering

- a. Per ISBE Return to School guidance, face coverings must be worn at all times, by both students and staff, while in the school building
- b. When walking into or out of the building with other students (i.e.: before/after school).
- c. While riding the bus.
- d. In public, anytime it is not possible to stay at least 6 feet away from other people.

5. Communicable Disease Monitoring

- a. Parents must relay symptoms to the office staff if calling a student in as sick. This is necessary for illness tracking as required by IDPH.
- b. Non-authorized visitors will not be allowed into the buildings.
- c. Authorized visitors must sign in and wear a mask or face covering while in the building.
- d. The school will not provide masks for visitors.
- e. Visitors will not be allowed anywhere other than the office area in most circumstances.
- f. Hand sanitizer will be provided and 6ft distance must be maintained between individuals

RETURN TO SCHOOLWORK FLOWCHART FOLLOWING A COVID-19 RELATED ABSENCE

July 7, 2020

Individual Had Close Contact With Someone Who Tested Positive or is Suspected of Having COVID-19



May Return After 14-Day Quarantine Period from Date of Last Contact with Individual

Individual Tested Positive or is Suspected of Having COVID-19 AND Had Symptoms



Symptom-Based Strategy
May Return After:
(1) At Least 10 Days Have Passed Since Symptom Onset; and
(2) At Least 72 Hours Since Resolution of Fever and Improvement of Respiratory Symptoms



Test-Based Strategy
May Return After: (1) Fever Free; (2) Improvement in Respiratory Symptoms; and (3) Two negative COVID-19 Tests in a Row, At Least 24 Hours Apart

Individual Tested Positive for COVID-19, But Had NO Symptoms



Time-Based Strategy
May Return After At Least 10 Days Have Passed Since Date of First Positive COVID-19 Test



Test-Based Strategy
May Return After Two Negative COVID-19 Tests in a Row, With Testing Done At Least 24 Hours

Individual Exhibits One or More Symptoms of COVID-19, But is Not Suspected of Having COVID-19



Some Examples:
Seasonal Allergies, Ear Infection, Seasonal Flu, Strep Throat, Migraine, Etc.
May Be Possible to Return in Fewer than 10 Days After Onset of Symptoms and 72 Hours Fever Free
Recommend:
Evidence of Alternative Reason for Symptoms and/or Release to Return to School/Work

Individual Returns from International Travel



May Return After 14-Day Quarantine from Date of Return from Trip

For All of the Above:
Return Based on Release from Health Care Provider Would Also Apply
Follow Any Updated Guidance From CDC, IDPH or Local Health Department!

Masks/Desk Guards:

The State and State Board of Education are requiring that masks be worn by all students and staff. Our district will provide washable masks to every student free of charge. They will be the required mask that each student must wear. A doctor's note will be required in order for a student not to wear a mask. At that point, a face shield will be worn. The State has deemed that face shields are only to be worn when facial expression is required for instruction (hearing impaired etc..) or medical exception. If needed, the district will also provide the face shields. Masks will not be worn during breakfast/lunch or outside activities. Plexiglas desk guards will also be placed at every desk as an additional precautionary measure.

Food Service and Water Fountains:

Our food service crew will take all precautions to make sure their workers are healthy and the food is prepared/distributed in a safe manner. Water fountains will not be used by mouth; however, the district will be providing water bottles for every student to use here at school.

Sanitizing:

The school will be properly cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis. The district will be providing hand sanitizer to every student as well.

Gatherings and social distancing:

The district will follow State guidelines as far as student gathering size and social distancing.

Remote Learning:

Remote Learning (e-learning) will only be offered to those who cannot return to school for COVID-19 related illness or concerns (health of student or risk to immediate family member living in the home). If a parent opts for their student to receive remote learning due to concerns for their health or the health of an immediate family member, the following will be required:

- Student must remain on remote learning for a trimester at a time
- Lesson plans will be available on our website for the student
- All work must be turned in weekly to be graded (electronically or to the office)
- Teachers will make time throughout the week to answer student/parent questions
- Grades will be given for all subjects
- Lunch will be available for pickup at the school daily
- The attached form must be signed by the parent/guardian

If a parent chooses to homeschool their student instead, please contact the school and the Will County Regional Office of Education.

Contact Tracing:

Students will be assigned seats on the bus and in the classroom/lunchroom in order to limit the number of students exposed should someone test positive for COVID-19.

Athletics and Extracurricular Activities:

At this time, there will be no before or after school activities at the school during the first trimester. This decision will be revisited as further guidance is provided by the State and ISBE.

Cleaning:

The school will be cleaned and disinfected regularly with deep cleaning taking place during all breaks.

Field Trips:

Out of school field trips will not take place until further notice.

**UNION SCHOOL
DISTRICT #81**

1661 Cherry Hill Road
Joliet, Illinois 60433
Phone: 815-726-5218
Fax: 815-726-5056



Board of Education

President – Mr. Patrick Sweeney
Vice President – Mr. Jose J. Gonzalez
Secretary – Mrs. Tina Bakke
Treasurer – Ms. Linda Brunner
Mr. Christopher Gustafson
Mrs. Shelly Sinclair
Mrs. Carey Brock

Superintendent

Timothy A. Baldermann

Remote Learning will only be offered for existing medical concerns and must be approved by the Superintendent.

I, _____, request that my students (listed below) be allowed to attend school through the Remote Learning option and ensure they will follow and adhere to the guidelines set forth by the District (Union 81). I am requesting this option because (circle one):

1. My student has a medical condition that could place them in greater danger if they contract COVID-19. I will provide a doctor's note with this form stating that is the case.
2. There is an immediate family member living in the household with my student that has a medical condition that could place them in greater danger if they are exposed to someone with COVID-19.
3. Other reason _____

The guidelines my student will adhere to are:

1. They must utilize Remote Learning for the entire trimester in which they requested this method.
2. They will follow the lesson plans available on the website.
3. All work will be turned in weekly; either electronically or to the office.
4. All work will be graded as if the student was receiving in-person education. This includes the effort grade.
5. They will contact the teacher for assistance and will respond in a timely manner to teacher communications.

Homeschooling is always an option. If you choose this, resources are available, but the teacher will not be accessible. You do not have to return work to the school. Further information on homeschooling your student can be found at <https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Homeschool.aspx>

Please place an X here if you will homeschool instead of choosing/requesting in-person or Remote Learning for your student(s).

Homeschool: _____

If you are choosing Remote Learning or Homeschooling, please list the student's names below.

Student name: _____
