

STUDENT, PARENT LETTER ([en Español](#))

Subject Line: Level Green Communication – Start of the 2021-2022 School Year

July 16, 2021

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians:

We are thrilled to welcome you back for the 2021-2022 school year, and even more excited that our schools will once again be open, with classes and extracurriculars resuming their in-person, pre-COVID traditional schedules.

Over the past week, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) released [updated guidance](#) regarding COVID-19 safety. The latest guidance reflects all in-person learning with relaxed restrictions that have been approved by the District 211 Board of Education and is summarized below.

Current guidance is summarized below. We will communicate updates from the IDPH and ISBE should they occur.

Masks: Staff and students who have been fully vaccinated are not required to wear masks while inside school buildings. Those who have not been fully vaccinated should wear masks while inside District 211 buildings, but this is not required. No masks are required outdoors. All individuals must wear masks on school buses and any other school-related transportation per the CDC order.

Social Distancing: At least three feet should be maintained, whenever possible, between students in classrooms.

Transportation: Normal bus service will occur. Bus route information for students will be listed in Infinite Campus in the “More” section by August 6. Students may be seated next to each other on buses. Buses will be disinfected daily. Per the CDC order, all students must wear masks while on a school bus, regardless of vaccination status.

Meals: A variety of hot and cold meal options will be available. All complete breakfast and lunch meals are free of charge to all students for the duration of the school year. Seating will be available at both three and six feet apart for students.

Symptom Screenings: Wellness screenings will be done by each individual before leaving home and is an important layer of prevention to help keep schools safe. It is imperative to stay home when sick or when getting a COVID test. You will be sent the most updated list of COVID symptoms prior to the start of school.

Vaccinations: If you are seeking vaccination sites, see the District 211 website for local vaccination information. Proof of vaccination is not required.

In addition to the above guidance, our schools will return to their pre-pandemic class and bell schedules. Lockers and locker rooms will once again be available. Our maintenance teams will continue to thoroughly disinfect our buildings, including high-touch surfaces, at the end of every school day. All

ventilation systems in our buildings meet or exceed current standards for airflow based upon occupancy, have increased frequency of filter changes, and have undergone routine maintenance inspections prior to the start of the school year. District 211 currently has optional BinaxNow COVID-19 testing available via the school nurse. We are finalizing an additional optional testing option in the fall. More information will be forthcoming should you choose for your child to take part in the testing when it becomes available.

We are pleased with the ISBE guidance, which we believe maintains the safety of our students and staff – a top priority in District 211 – while also allowing for complete in-person learning. *If your child has a medical concern which makes in-person learning for this school year unsafe, please contact your high school's student services director immediately to schedule a meeting.*

The latest safety information is also available on our District website, www.d211.org, in “Back to School 2021-2022” under the Parents or Students tabs.

I understand the past year posed challenges for all our families. The District 211 staff is ready to welcome and support each student on August 12, the first day of school. Watch for communications from your school inviting students to come into the schools early to walk through their schedule.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Small". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa Small, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Township High School District 211