

School Opening Report

River Forest Public Schools District 90

Committee of the Whole Meeting
September 7, 2021



River Forest
Public Schools

A special THANK YOU, to:

- D90 Educators
 - Nursing Team
 - District Office Staff
 - School Office Staff
 - Administrative Team
 - Maintenance Team
 - Board of Education Members
 - Community Partners
 - and
 - *Families and Students!*





School Opening Report Topics

- Health and Wellness
- Student Enrollment
- Staffing Conditions
- Status of Facilities
- COVID-19 Related Matters
- Other Topics/Considerations
- Board of Education Questions

Primary Objectives for 2021-22 School Year

Protect the health and safety of all students, staff, families and the community to the greatest degree possible

Maintain a high-quality, equitable program of in-person instruction for all students



Health and Wellness

- **COVID-19 Diagnoses** – Since the beginning of the school year (August 25), District 90 schools have responded to three confirmed COVID-19 cases.
- **Active Quarantine** – Since the beginning of the school year (August 25), District 90 schools have six individuals who are currently on quarantine for close contact.
- **COVID-19 Reporting** – District 90 is reporting COVID-19 cases to the community by school, along with other essential COVID-19 data, through the District website (district90.org). Links to external COVID-19 data sources and resources are also available.



Health and Wellness (Cont.)

- **Social Emotional Learning** – Elementary students are receiving SEL instruction through Second Step curriculum. MS staff and administration will be reviewing and revising Student Advisory Program to reflect changing student needs.
- **Student Clubs/Activities** – Most extracurricular activities will be reinstated, contingent on levels of community transmission. However, participation in “elevated risk” programs require heightened safety protocols (including unvaccinated screening testing), and all activities must conform with best practices in safety.
- **Tier 1 Social Emotional Advisory Panel Recommendations** – Trauma informed training, opportunity for staff to process events from last year, embedding “student voice,” Co-Pilot/Elevate program



Student Enrollment

- **Lincoln** – Total Enrollment: 352 students
Grade levels under monitoring: None
- **Willard** – Total Enrollment: 375 students
Grade levels under monitoring: 3rd
- **Roosevelt** – Total Enrollment: 658 students
 - Grade 5 156 students
 - Grade 6 170 students
 - Grade 7 165 students
 - Grade 8 167 students



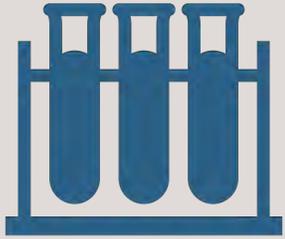
Staffing Conditions

- **D90 School Staff** – All full-time positions are currently staffed. Two part-time vacancies remain at the elementary level (.6 FTE Physical Education, .5 FTE English Language)
- **Contract Employees (On-Site)** – All full-time contracted positions that work with students at our school sites are currently staffed.
- **Contracted Employees (Off-Site/Outside Vendors)** – Vendors in two realms are experiencing significant staffing challenges that have impact on our schools and families. These include bus drivers (independent transportation companies) and crossing guards (Andy Frain).



State of Facilities

- **Elementary HVAC Projects** – HVAC projects are complete at both elementary schools. Contractors are in process of balancing the systems.
- **Summer Cleaning** – D90 maintenance staff did an outstanding job with summer cleaning efforts and preparing the schools for occupancy by students and staff this fall. *Kudos!*
- **Cleaning and Disinfecting** – D90 will continue to clean and disinfect all classrooms, bathrooms and common areas every day, as per safety mitigation protocols. Kindergarten and pre-school classrooms will be cleaned between morning and afternoon sessions.



COVID-19 Related Matters

- **New Screening Testing Program** – Screening testing for unvaccinated students will be required for those who elect to participate in elevated risk activities (i.e. basketball, volleyball, band, choral programs). Once established, optional screening testing will also be offered to all unvaccinated middle school students.
 - * *A risk assessment was completed with Rush Infection Prevention Team about the relative value of elementary screening testing; the District is continuing to monitor conditions before committing.*
- **Mandated Employee Vaccinations** – District 90 is in compliance with Governor J.B. Pritzker’s Emergency Order requiring mandated employee vaccinations for all employees and any others who are on site for regular, designated periods of time, with specified exceptions.



COVID-19 Related Matters (Cont.)

- **Travel Advisory** – Currently, the District is implementing prior travel advisory restrictions from CCDPH, with modifications. We are closely monitoring student/staff health data to determine if adjustments may be necessary.
- **Remote Instruction** – Remote instruction in D90 is limited to ISBE specifications: individuals who are vaccine ineligible or not having the vaccine AND under quarantine for COVID-19 related purposes.
- **Changing Conditions** – Communications with families and staff members continue to reinforce the need for flexibility under the uncertainty of changing conditions and local health guidance. Thanks to all community members for the cooperation and support.



Special Topics/Considerations

- **Crossing Guards** – D90 is working with the Village of River Forest to address the staffing issues that the third-party contractor is having with sourcing qualified employees.
- **Milk** – Milk service has been paused temporarily for logistical reasons.
- **Field Trips** – Principals are making determinations about field trip viability on a case-by-case basis, considering the purpose of the trip, the ability to implement safety mitigations, and other relevant details.
- **Other Vaccination Efforts** - D90 will continue to promote vaccination events for individuals eligible for the vaccine (12+). We are providing an optional influenza vaccination event for students and staff in September.

Questions?

Thank You!

