

SEAPCO

Back to School Plan

2021-2022



DISCLOSURE

The contents of this Back-to-School Plan are subject to change based on Federal, State, or Local guidance and/or conditions. Any changes will be communicated via email, posted to the district website, or via phone message if appropriate.

Introduction

The safety and security of our students and staff has been and will continue to be the top priority of SEAPCO. We understand that students learn best when in person; therefore, we will begin the 2021-2022 school year with students attending full days, five days a week. Based on the most recent CDC/IDPH guidance, which recommends implementing layered prevention strategies to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we have developed the following plan to ensure that our students can achieve to their fullest potential while providing a safe learning environment during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Mitigation Strategies

COVID-19 Vaccinations

Achieving high levels of COVID-19 vaccination among eligible students as well as teachers, staff, and household members is one of the most critical strategies to help our school communities safely resume full operations. Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. People who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are at low risk of symptomatic or severe infection. A growing body of evidence suggests that people who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are less likely to have an asymptomatic infection or transmit COVID-19 to other-people who are not fully vaccinated. If you or your child is eligible for a vaccination, please consider getting him/her vaccinated as soon as possible

Vaccine Status

SEAPCO will collect vaccination status on a voluntary basis. Proof of vaccination will be required for students/staff to avoid certain mitigation strategies, such as healthy quarantine. Parents/guardians who wish to have their student's vaccination status on record with SEAPCO/district may show their student's paper COVID-19 vaccination card

to the school through registration or at any time during the year. The COVID-19 vaccination is not required to attend school, but parents who are interested in their child receiving the vaccination may visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to learn about opportunities in our community.

Masks

On August 4, Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker announced masks will be required for students, teachers and staff at pre-kindergarten-12th grade schools. The new measure is part of the state's ongoing effort to combat a new surge as the Delta variant rapidly spreads.

IDPH and ISBE also endorse the CDC recommendation that all teachers, staff, students and visitors to K-12 schools wear a mask while indoors, regardless of vaccination status. Student and staff safety is a priority at SEAPCO. **The SEAPCO Office and Programs will adopt universal masking for all staff, students, and visitors regardless of vaccination status.**

If your child has difficulty wearing a mask see Students with Disabilities section below for further information.

Bussing: The CDC Order, effective as of February 2, 2021, requires passengers and drivers to wear a mask on all public transportation, including school busses. While on a school bus, all individuals must wear a mask.

Physical Distancing

The CDC recommends schools maintain at least three feet of physical distance between students in classrooms. We will strive to maintain at least three feet distance to the greatest extent possible while indoors; however, there may be activities where maintaining three feet will be difficult.

Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

We will continue to promote frequent handwashing and/or use of hand sanitizer. We will also continue to reinforce proper respiratory etiquette such as covering coughs and sneezes.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Classrooms will be sanitized daily using sanitation sprayers and E15 solution. Drinking fountains, water bottle filling stations and door handles will be disinfected throughout the day. Students are encouraged to bring a personal water bottle to be kept at school.

Symptom Screenings and Staying Home When Sick

By sending their children to school, parents and guardians are certifying that they have conducted a daily symptom screening of their child(ren). There will be no screening or self-certification for symptoms at school this year. Parents and guardians must keep their child home if he/she exhibits one or more of the following COVID-like symptoms: fever (100.4 degrees or higher), new onset of moderate to severe headache, shortness of breath, new cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, new loss of taste or smell, fatigue from unknown cause, or muscle or body aches from unknown cause. Any student exhibiting these symptoms while at school will be sent home.

Students or staff with a negative COVID test result or an alternative diagnosis by a physician may return to school once the symptoms have improved or resolved.

Siblings of symptomatic children must be kept home as well, unless the symptomatic student receives a negative COVID test within 24 hours of the onset of symptoms.

Quarantining & Contact Tracing

Staff or students who test positive or are symptomatic for COVID-19 must isolate per CDC/IDPH Guidelines. Staff or parents of students in close contact with a known positive will be notified that they were near someone who tested positive. **Close**

contacts will be contacted by IDPH or the local Health Department to determine if quarantining is required.

Fully vaccinated persons who remain asymptomatic and those with a documented COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days are excluded from quarantine. However, the new CDC guidance recommends that fully vaccinated persons test 3 to 5 days after the known exposure and wear masks in public indoor settings until the negative test result or 14 days past exposure. Staff and families will want to monitor for any emerging COVID-19 symptoms.

Learning and the School Day

Remote Learning

The use of Remote Learning will be limited in accordance with ISBE's declaration:

"Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, all schools must resume fully in-person learning for all student attendance days, provided that, pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/10-30](#) and [105 ILCS 5/34-18.66](#), remote instruction be made available for students who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine or who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine, only while they are under quarantine consistent with guidance or requirements from a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health."

If a student falls under the conditions noted above, remote learning will be available to the student. Additionally, student absences due to quarantining at any level will be treated as normal absences. Student work will be sent home and the teacher(s) will work to recoup any lost learning upon the student's return. Students will be given two days for every day missed in order to complete work.

Students with Disabilities

Parents of students who need accommodations, modifications, or assistance related to COVID-19 safety protocols, disabilities, underlying medical conditions, or weakened immune systems should contact their student's case manager to discuss his/her need(s).

Students who are medically fragile and unable to attend school for an extended period of time will need to follow the procedures for home/hospital services pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/14-13.0](#). Medically fragile students are at an increased risk of severe illness or live with someone at an increased risk of severe illness. For the 2021-22 school year, students who are medically fragile (or live with someone who is) and have a verified doctor's note will qualify for service under Home/Hospital Tutoring. An IEP will be developed to address each student's individual needs, including 5 hours of tutoring per week if appropriate.

If, due to a disability or significant health reason, a student cannot safely wear a mask while in school, please contact the program director for appropriate documentation requirements.

Starting the School Day

All students will follow the start and end times listed below for each program. SEAPCO Academy students will be dropped off up front and the others at the East Side door.

Program	Start Time	End Time
SEAPCO Academy	8:15 am	2:30 pm
RISE	7:55 am	2:15 pm
DC	8:00 am	2:30 pm

Lunch

Students will continue to eat lunch in the same areas. SEAPCO Academy in the gym, RISE in the cafeteria, and DC in the classroom. All lunch seating will continue to provide for 3 - 6 feet of distance.

Visitors

Visitors will not be permitted beyond school offices during school hours until vaccines are available for all students.

Curriculum Based Instruction and Field Trips

Curriculum Based Instruction and Field trips that align with instructional outcomes and/or are an extension of the learning environment will be permitted during the 2021-22 school year:

For program specific questions, please contact your SEAPCO Administrator:

SEAPCO Academy, Brooke Mair (697-0880 ext. 211), bmair@seapco.org

SEAPCO RISE, Kerry Klesath (697-0880, ext. 213), kklesath@seapco.org

SEAPCO DC, Ashley Strausbaugh (697-0880, ext. 277), astrausbaugh@seapco.org