



Cornell School District

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Cornell Elementary – A National Blue Ribbon School



Cornell School District 2021-22 Fall School Opening Plan

This approved plan was open for public comment at the Board of Education Meeting on August 23, 2021.

From Safer-at-Home to Now

On March 13, 2020, Wisconsin schools were closed “indefinitely” due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Schools in Wisconsin were ordered to remain closed until June 30, 2020. In the fall of 2020, some schools reopened in the state while others kept a virtual learning environment. Schools in Chippewa County opened, some with modified schedules to comply with the local public health order. Additionally, Wisconsin schools that were open complied with the State mask mandate. The Cornell School District offered in-person learning five days a week at the start of the 2020-21 school year and completed the school year with students being able to be in school five days a week for the entire school year. There were no closings due to COVID-19 in 2020-21..

Current State of Health in Chippewa County

As of August 23, 2021, the number of COVID-19 cases is increasing.

Plan Criteria

Through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act and federal grants due to COVID-19, the District has criteria that it will be addressing as we move into the 2021-22 school year. To meet this goal the District will:

- Administer and use high quality assessments to assess progress.
- Implement evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students.
- Provide information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students.

Fall Overview

The Cornell School District will conduct in-person learning for K-12 students five days per while offering free school breakfast and lunch.

Staffing Plan

The Cornell School District will maintain staff at the same levels of 2020-21.

Facilities Plan

Ventilation:

- Increased circulation of air by programming HVAC.

Cleaning/Disinfecting:

- Our custodians will continue to thoroughly clean our buildings. Custodial cleaning practices will be focused on cleaning for health, which includes an emphasis on disinfecting surfaces where bacteria or viruses are most likely to be transmitted. They will conduct specialized cleanings if there are any outbreaks of illnesses in a school.

Transportation Plan

121 MS
8-17-21
8-24-21

- **The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention requires face coverings for all public transportation until at least September 13, 2021.** This requirement applies to all occupants of school buses and district transportation for students. This means students must wear a face covering for all situations (to and from school, field trips, athletics buses, etc.) in which they are boarding a school bus or other district transportation.

Universal Health and Safety Measures

In order to reduce the opportunity for the spread of illness and germs, certain health and safety measures will be put in place across the district:

- **Masks (or other cloth face coverings) - At this time, masks will be optional for all students and staff.** This could change if local, state, or federal mandates begin requiring masks in school buildings, or if we experience significant increases in positivity rates in our community or at specific schools or grade levels.
- Access to hand-sanitizing and hand-washing stations.
- Water bottle filling stations are available. Bottles should be brought home daily for cleaning.

At-Home Screening for Symptoms

All staff and students are required to screen for symptoms prior to coming to school. Students and staff should stay home if their screening reveals any of the following symptoms that cannot be explained by other causes (such as seasonal allergies).

- A temperature over 100.3 Fahrenheit within the last 24 hours
- Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or sore throat within the last 24 hours
- A new loss of taste or smell
- Muscle pain or chills
- Illness symptoms including vomiting, diarrhea, continuous nasal drainage, or rash in the last 24 hours

****All** students and staff (vaccinated or not) must stay home from school when they have a fever.

Staff or Students with Symptoms at School

Staff and students presenting COVID-like symptoms that can't be explained by a medical reason will be sent home from school along with their entire family. Staff and students will be recommended for testing if they have respiratory symptoms, new loss of taste or smell, or two or more of the other symptoms.

Close Contacts

If the close contact is fully vaccinated and exposed to COVID-19, they do NOT have to quarantine as long as they remain asymptomatic. If the close contact develops symptoms, they should isolate and get tested for COVID-19 (regardless of vaccination status). If the close contact is unvaccinated and exposed to COVID-19, the student or staff member will be sent home for quarantine and will be referred to the Chippewa County Health Department.

Length of Quarantine

Students or staff members who are quarantined due to being a close contact will need to be excluded from school for the full 10-day period. Quarantine can end after day 7 if the result of a diagnostic COVID-19 test (PCR or antigen) is negative and if no symptoms were reported during daily monitoring.

Ongoing Communication

Additional district and school-specific information will continue to be shared throughout the school year if there are changes via email and facebook.

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