

Worth School District 127

2021-2022 Return to Learn Plan

This plan was developed based on Governor Pritzker's Executive Order. [Executive Order](#)

RETURN TO LEARN

- Worth School District 127 will return to full in-person instruction for all students this August.
- Monday and Tuesday, August 16 and 17, 2021, are designated Institute Days with only Worth School District staff in attendance.
- Wednesday, August 18, 2021, will be the first student attendance day. The first day of student attendance will be a regular full-day schedule.

TRANSITION PLAN

- All students in grades Preschool-8th will return to school for in-person instruction starting on Wednesday, August 18, 2021.
- The Worth School District Board of Education the District Administrative Team will re-evaluate the in-person learning plan on an ongoing basis. Any changes to in-person instruction will be based upon the current COVID-19 situations and recommendations/mandates from local and state authorities. The district will communicate changes to parents and staff as often as necessary.

School Hours

Worth Elementary and Worthwoods:

- 8:30 - 11:30 am EC, PreK, Kindergarten morning session
- 8:30 am - 3:15 pm Grades 1-5
- 12:15 - 3:15 pm EC, PreK, Kindergarten afternoon session

Worth Junior High:

- 8:05 am - 3:05 pm Grades 6-8

Attendance

If your son or daughter will not be in school for any reason, or if your child is going to be late, please call the school to let us know. You may call the absentee hotline, 24-hours a day, and leave a message, or you may contact the main office.

Calling in an Absence

Please state your child's name, grade level, and reason for absence or for arriving late. Due to COVID-19, office staff will be asking parents to supply information about the specific nature of the child's illness.

- Worth Elementary Attendance Line: 708-671-5859
- Worthwoods Attendance Line: 708-671-5899
- Worth Junior High Attendance Line: 708-671-3999

Health Self-Certification

- All staff and students will be required to periodically complete a Self-Certification form that asks about COVID-19 symptoms and COVID-19 exposure.
- On the days when a form is not required, it is assumed that parents have checked their children for symptoms before sending them to school, and they will not send children to school if they have any symptoms or have had any covid exposure.
- Parents will be checking for a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Individuals who have a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or any known symptom of COVID-19 may not enter the building.
- Individuals who exhibit symptoms should be referred to a medical provider for evaluation and treatment and be given information about when they can return to school.

Face Masks

- According to Governor Pritzker's Executive Order, masks must be worn by students, staff, and visitors at all times when in the school buildings and when on the school bus.
- District 127 will have a supply of disposable face coverings for any students, staff, or visitors that do not have one.
- In certain instances, teachers will be allowed to wear a mask with a transparent face covering.
- Families are encouraged to help their child get comfortable wearing a face covering for an extended period of time. Also, please help them understand how to properly put them on and take them off.
- Reusable face coverings should be washed daily.

School Meals

Breakfast and lunch will be served and eaten at school. Families that participate in our breakfast and lunch program will be asked to pre-order meals on a monthly basis.

Open House

Each school will host an in-person Open House to ensure all parents have the opportunity to meet the teachers.

Sports, Activities, and Events

- Before and after school activities will resume.
- There will be no external field trips due to the fact there are no buses available.
- The South Suburban Junior High School Conference sports and activities schedule and guidelines are still to be determined.

FACILITIES

Cleaning

- Enhanced daily cleaning protocols will be in effect at all facilities, in accordance with CDC and IDPH guidelines. Custodial and maintenance staff will receive training and guidance for daily cleaning measures prior to the start of school.
- Special attention will be paid to high-touch surfaces including doorknobs and handles, handrails, elevator buttons, classroom desks and chairs, sinks, countertops, light switches, etc.
- Disinfectant will be provided to all staff so that cleaning and sanitizing can occur in classrooms as needed.
- Efforts will be made to reduce the sharing of instructional materials, classroom materials, and technology among students. If materials must be shared, procedures will be established to ensure cleaning and sanitizing.
- In the event a student or staff member becomes sick, any occupied spaces will be closed until proper cleaning and disinfection has been completed.

Classrooms/Learning Spaces

- To maximize space, classroom furniture, with the exception of that needed for instruction, has been removed from classrooms.
- Seating will be configured to maximize space between students in accordance with social distancing guidelines.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at all times in learning spaces.

Hallways

School staff will monitor hallways and limit the number of students in hallways at one time. Whenever possible, hallway traffic will flow in one direction.

Restrooms

Restroom procedures will be established and communicated by the school to limit the number of students within hallways and restrooms at one time. Posted signs will encourage hand hygiene procedures in the restrooms as well as throughout the school building.

Lockers

Students will have access to lockers at Worth Junior High.

OTHER SCHOOL PROTOCOLS

Visitors

- Parents are strongly discouraged from requesting access to the school building. If admitted, parents must remain in the main office, unless they have administrator approval.
- All visitors must complete the Self-Certification form.
- All visitors must adhere to all building safety and health protocols.

Other Safety Measures and Precautions

- All District 127 staff members will be required to participate in training on established District 127 health and safety procedures prior to the return of students. Training will be ongoing as necessary.
- Signage and visual markings will be posted throughout all District 127 buildings to serve as a reminder for health and safety protocols including social distancing and hand washing.
- If needed, additional personnel may be hired on a temporary basis to support the implementation of health and safety procedures, including cleaning.
- Handwashing with soap and water will be encouraged regularly.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms, common areas, and school entrances. Students are allowed to bring their own small personal hand sanitizer.
- Nurses will continue to work with families to ensure students are current on physicals and all vaccines.

When Someone has Symptoms

- Any individual who shows signs or symptoms related to COVID-19 should stay home. Individuals should not return to school until the date approved by the school nurse.

- Individuals must be fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- Parents must report their child's absence to their school. Secretaries and nurses will ask about a child's symptoms. We will continue to work closely with the Cook County Department of Public Health to track illnesses throughout the school year.
- Students will not be penalized for staying home from school and must not come when they aren't feeling well.
- Individuals will be required to complete a symptom screening daily. Students, staff, and visitors must remain home with COVID-19-related symptoms.
- While at school, any student or staff member who begins to exhibit a fever or COVID-19-like symptoms must report to the nurse's office.

Positive COVID-19 Case

- Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 or who shows symptoms or signs of illness should remain home.
- Possible cases of COVID-19 within your home should be reported to the school nurse so that contact tracing can be initiated in conjunction with the Cook County Department of Public Health.
- In the case of a positive COVID-19 case within a district building, communication to staff and families will be coordinated with and under the advice of the Cook County Department of Public Health. This will include notifications and procedures for those within close contact and those within the general community.
- District 127 will work closely with the Cook County Department of Public Health to determine the duration and extent of class quarantines and/or building and facility closures.
- Individuals who have had close contact with anyone who tested positive for COVID-19 must quarantine at home and monitor symptoms for 14 days after exposure. Close contact is defined as "any individual who has been closer than six feet for more than 15 minutes."
- Students returning from illness related to COVID-19 will be required to check-in with the school nurse and school principal confirming they are safe to return to school.
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting will occur in the event of a COVID-19 case within the school or facility.

Quarantine

If a student is required to quarantine due to a positive COVID-19 case, he or she will be provided with assignments to work on at home during their quarantine.