Administrative Concerns

Changing guidelines surrounding mitigating measures to return to in person learning means we could be putting students at risk and we are not aware yet. We do not know what we do not know about how the virus spread from asymptomatic students to other students.

Unstructured times become potential spreading opportunities. Unstructured times during the day like bathroom, recess, bus and entrance/exit to the school we cannot guarantee 6ft of separation. Kids will want to be together.

Student Safety: No matter what we plan, there will be time when large groups of students will be in common areas, and it is difficult to provide supervision in all areas at all times. With admin taking temperatures in the morning, we will not be able to make certain students are not congregating in areas of the school. With keeping bus riders under 50, we are going to accommodate more bus routes, and some routes will show up more than 15 minutes prior to the beginning of school. We cannot have supervision on all bathrooms, and all areas of the school at all times. All students will be in the hallway during passing periods.

Student Safety: The recommendation is to keep students in one classroom throughout the day. With the unique schedules of every high school student, less than five students have an exact schedule to keep them in one room together. I have not seen one high school across the United States that has been able to keep high school students in one classroom. To do so, a teacher will have a homeroom with groups of students learning from a teacher in another room. They will have to teach and keep students on task while teaching students remotely in other rooms. If we are to do this, we should be in remote learning anyway. Students will have to change classrooms, and it will be difficult to keep students from interacting while in the hallway.

For both of the first two concerns, we have created and A/B day schedule to reduce the number of students in the building and classroom at any given time. The hallway will have a one direction-flow. We will arrange locker assignments in a way that students are next to someone from an alternating day, and lockers will only be used first thing in the morning, to get their lunch prior to lunchtime, and at the end of the day.

Consistency in education: Due to a recent spike in allergies that I do not typically have issues from, I had to be tested for COVID. I was tested on a Monday and did not receive results until Friday. Allergies kept me out for five days, and had I been at school, others exposed to me in proximity may have been required to be tested also. With allergies, the common cold, and the flu, the continuity in education is going to be lost. I have a great staff, but if one person, including students, are suspected of having COVID, there is likely to be a large number of people who have to isolate, including the families of staff and students. The teachers have had opportunities to prepare for teaching remotely, and I feel we are far more prepared to offer a solid education to our students remotely than we were in the spring. While I would prefer in-

person, any symptoms will force large numbers of people at the high school, both students and staff, to isolate.

Eating is my biggest concern. When students eat, they have to remove their masks and they will not be 6 feet apart. I am planning on enlisting three different indoor spaces for kids to eat - cafeteria, library, and stage, and outside when the weather cooperates. These spaces allow kids to be farther apart than in their classrooms, but still not 6 feet. We are anticipating getting Plexiglas, but kids can lean around that. Again, masks are off so kids can breathe in particulates.
Kids also eat snacks and get drinks in their classrooms. They are not 6 feet apart but may have dividers. Snacks can be prohibited, but many kids do not eat before school. Students will also need to be allowed to drink so they would still unmask. Many K and 1 students will need help to remask, so their masks may be off for longer.

In classrooms, staff and students will not be 6 feet apart. We could be if we have nine students max in each room upstairs and 12 downstairs. We are looking at getting Plexiglas dividers for desks.

Our bathrooms are not 6 feet apart with stalls and sinks. We can close stalls and sinks. This would leave six toilets and sinks in the building for all students - three girls and three boys.

Movement into and out of the building will be tight. Into the building is worse with all busses arriving at the same time. We have moved where bus drop off is. We will be utilizing two doors with two people per door scanning temperatures of kids. While waiting kids will need to stand and stay 6 feet apart and this process may be lengthy so they could be waiting a while to be scanned. We will work with transportation to release kids off busses slower, but the amount of time they can wait is finite as they have other routes to run. Leaving the building, we will release students' one bus at a time out of classrooms.

Due to the number of students enrolled at PGE, each grade level typically has slightly over 50 students. Therefore, at PGE lunch is a significant concern. In order to meet the recommendation of 50 or less people in a given space, classes will need to possibly be split into multiple locations to eat (i.e. Library, Gymnasium, classrooms) if they cannot all be seated in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Being PGE houses K-4 adaptive programming, I have concerns how we will meet the needs of the students in this program with all of the social distancing and PPE requirements.

Many of these students have health/toileting needs that are met through paraprofessional support. Can these needs be met with the current CDC/ISBE requirements?

My top concern is transitioning from classrooms and lunch. Teachers and staff will need to sanitize student work areas and this could take away from quite a bit of instructional time as well as make it more difficult to monitor hallway and bathroom procedures. With having multiple eating areas to ensure social distancing, lunch could very well take much longer than usual so that students miss even more instructional time as well as put a strain on staff to quickly, yet effectively, sanitize. This is with the assumption that all students, at all times, follow all mask wearing and social distancing protocols.

Another major concern is transportation. If a student arrives and has symptoms, we would need to quarantine that student, nearby riders, and siblings in other schools. Do we quarantine the entire bus and do we have space enough to safely quarantine those students without accepting more risk of exposure? Again, we are operating with the assumption that all students, at all times, voluntarily follow protocols on the bus.

Final concern is continuity of learning. If staff have symptoms and are unable to teach, the quality of instruction will be affected. I also believe consistency is important to students so jumping in and out of in-person learning to e learning as cases ebb and flow would be detrimental to student learning as well.

My wish is that we would be able to have in person learning. As a teacher at heart, I know that students experience school the best through in person learning. As a school administrator, my first responsibility is to keep students and staff safe. I do not believe it is possible at this time with in person learning to keep students and staff safe.

The first for this concern is maintaining social distancing and the wearing of masks during unstructured times is not possible. This includes passing times, before school and after school. Students naturally want to be close to each other. No matter how hard we try, there will be students who do not follow guidelines for wearing masks and social distancing. Even though we would educate students and families about the importance of wearing masks and social distancing and provide intervention and consequences for students, this will not be enough. Students and staff who violate the social distancing and mask guidelines will put our entire school population, families, and our community in danger. Consequences will not stop the spread of COVID-19. Students who do not meet social distancing and mask guidelines do not only put their own health at risk, they put the safety of all students, staff, their families, and our community at risk.

NBMS Concerns for In-Person Learning

Concerns	Effects	Remedies
Students not following 6' social distancing in classrooms and lunch rooms - leaning around plexiglass, congregating instead of going directly to their seats	Students may be closer to one another either intentionally, or due to another student not following rules	-Teachers will teach expectations -Floors and areas taped for traffic pattern -Plexiglass dividers
Students not following social distancing in bathrooms Students contaminating surfaces in bathrooms	-Cannot restrict bathroom to only one student -Nature of MS students is to congregate in bathroom -Cannot constantly keep every surface free of Covid - multiple touch surfaces in bathrooms	-Bathroom passes only allowed for emergencies -During passing time, bathroom entrance monitored to limit # of students in bathroom at a time
Students not following social distancing in hallways during passing periods, arrival, and dismissal	Even with a staggered dismissal, our hallways are relatively small, and there will be 50+ students in the same area at any given time	-Staggered dismissal from classes -Hallways marked for traffic patterns, social distancing reminders -School Staff monitoring hallways -Students taught expectations -No lockers allowed

Transportation Concerns

1. Multiple students from different schools on the bus.
-This would apply to our country routes. Depending on routes and start times for the schools, we may be able to break some of those routes up.

2. Students wearing and keeping a mask on the bus.
- Transportation will train drivers on how to address situations the proper protocol. It may be difficult for the bus drivers to see if the student has their mask on once they are sitting in their seats.

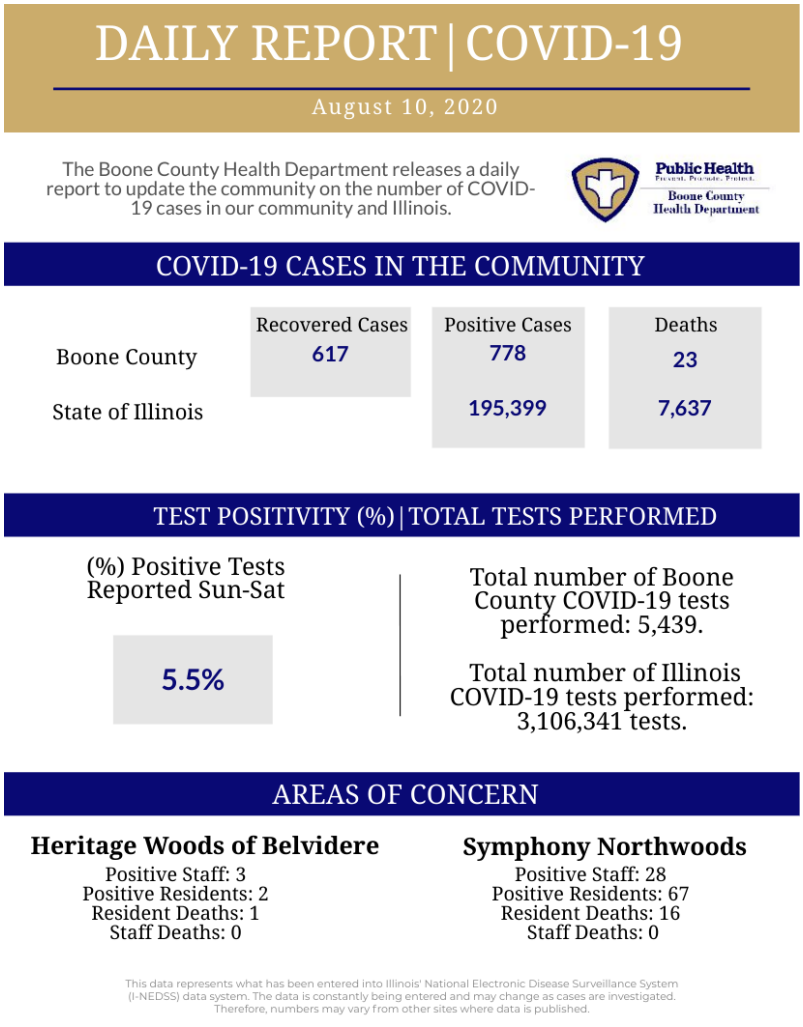
3. It will be difficult to keep six feet distance on the bus.
-There are typically 27 seats on a bus. We will fill the bus with the first on at the back of the bus and fill moving forward so kids are not walking past each other. We will sit students from the same family in the same seat together. The bus seats provide a natural divider.

Nurse Concerns

1. The cases of COVID-19 in our region are continuing to rise. Winnebago is on a warning list. Boone County Health Department looks at the numbers of cases in the region.

    a. It has been suggested that we close the schools if absenteeism related to flu or other illnesses is at 3-5%. Previously we would report to BCHD when we hit 10% on the Flu Tracker system.

    b. The cases are significantly spreading in the area if the positivity rate is above 5%. As of yesterday, August 10th, the rate was at 5.5%.



DAILY REPORT | COVID-19

August 10, 2020

The Boone County Health Department releases a daily report to update the community on the number of COVID-19 cases in our community and Illinois.

Public Health
Boone County Health Department

COVID-19 CASES IN THE COMMUNITY

	Recovered Cases	Positive Cases	Deaths
Boone County	617	778	23
State of Illinois		195,399	7,637

TEST POSITIVITY (%) | TOTAL TESTS PERFORMED

(%) Positive Tests Reported Sun-Sat

5.5%

Total number of Boone County COVID-19 tests performed: 5,439.

Total number of Illinois COVID-19 tests performed: 3,106,341 tests.

AREAS OF CONCERN

Heritage Woods of Belvidere
Positive Staff: 3
Positive Residents: 2
Resident Deaths: 1
Staff Deaths: 0

Symphony Northwoods
Positive Staff: 28
Positive Residents: 67
Resident Deaths: 16
Staff Deaths: 0

This data represents what has been entered into Illinois' National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (I-NEDSS) data system. The data is constantly being entered and may change as cases are investigated. Therefore, numbers may vary from other sites where data is published.

2. Giving the parents and the district time to properly prepare for this school year.

a. Since the school could quickly go to remote or e-learning shortly after opening parents could be left scrambling to find childcare last minute.

b. Since safety is a priority for students, staff, and the community, delaying the opening of school this will allow the district to properly prepare and put measures in place to follow state guidelines.

3. COVID spreads rapidly and with the current situation we feel it safest until the number of cases stabilizes or decreases.

. If we wait until January to re-open we will be well underway through flu season and we will be more prepared.

a. There are numerous examples of how quickly this disease can spread. Contact tracing also illustrates how the number of people affected grows exponentially, especially when test results take several days.