



Plan for Return In-Person to School 2022 – 2023

Bulldog Territory!

Akin CCSD 91 plans to resume in-person 5 day week, full day student attendance model. The District will follow all Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) guidelines regarding COVID mitigations. This plan is subject to change based upon updated guidelines from Illinois Department of Public Health and Illinois State Board of Education. Virtual learning will not be an option unless students meet specific requirements established by ISBE and IDPH.

In-Person Learning

Student attendance begins **Wednesday, August 10**. ISBE's guidance has permitted in-person learning with the following guidelines being established: ([ISBE Guidelines](#))

- Enhanced Cleaning
- Social Distancing Where Possible
- Symptom Screening for students, and staff

School dates and times for students attending in-person instruction will be Monday-Friday, from 8 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.

Students will attend school following a traditional 5 day a week schedule. After-school tutoring will be offered. Staff have been provided training and tools to help with recovery of Covid learning loss. Continuity of Services Research shows that students learn best when they are provided in- person instruction and immediate access to their teachers. The Illinois State Board of Education passed a resolution allowing remote learning only if a student is not eligible for a Covid 19 vaccine AND under a quarantine order by a local health department. Akin CCSD #91 will make their decision if a student qualifies for virtual learning. The student must have a medical consent form signed by their doctor. Plans are in place that will provide instruction, technology and hotspots, if needed, to any student in remote learning.

- School will start at 8:00 a.m.
- Symptom screenings upon arrival will not be required. Students and staff should stay home when they have signs of infectious illness and contact their healthcare provider for testing and care. We encourage parents to self-certify their student(s) are healthy and symptom-free prior to coming to school.
- School will be in session for a full day with a 2:50 dismissal for bus students and a 3:00 dismissal time for pick up students.
- Masks are recommended for all students and staff at all grade levels, regardless of vaccination status.

- Masks will be available for students who request them.
- Unless exempt by CDC Order, passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses.
- Social distancing: School staff are to help students commit to physical distancing as much as possible by:
 - Arrangement of furniture, play spaces and classroom materials to model and reinforce physical distancing of at least 3 feet;
 - providing assigned seating for students and encourage students to remain in their assigned area;
 - defined marked paths of travel in classrooms and/or corridors.
- Proper cleaning/disinfecting practices will continue to be utilized by the custodial and transportation staff, focusing on “high touch” surfaces. HVAC air filtration will be monitored, with filters replaced as needed.
- To increase air circulation, staff, when possible, will open doors and windows, and/or have activities, classes, outdoors when circumstances allow.

Arrival/Dismissal

- 7:30 Bus Arrival
- 2:50 Dismissal for K - 8 Students
- 2:50 Bus Riders (Driver and students must wear a mask and students will have assigned seats on the bus).
- 3:00 - 4:30 Latchkey/Tutoring

Car Riders

Arrival times and student access to enter the building will be substantially different than in previous years. Car riders will not be permitted inside the building prior to 7:00 a.m. when supervision begins.

- K - 3rd grade students will be dropped off and enter the building at the southeast door.
- 4th - 8th grade students will be dropped off at the main entrance of the building (northeast door).

At dismissal, car riders in kindergarten - third grade will be walked by their teacher to meet parents waiting in the parking lot. Parents will be permitted to gather at the outside door entrance to meet their children.

Social Distancing

Akin CCSD #91 students and staff are encouraged to maintain social distance (3 feet separation) throughout the school day. In order to increase social distancing, we have modified our schedule, limited passing periods, and have signage reminding staff, visitors, and students to maintain social distancing which will be placed at all entrances, in classrooms, and throughout other common areas. Social distancing applies to all areas including the classroom, common areas, and the main office. Student mixing should be reduced to a minimum.

Students should remain with their grade level cohorts to reduce mixing grade levels within the building as much as possible. Students should use one classroom, one entrance to the building, one restroom, and one hallway. Building staff should review their student pick up and drop off procedures in an attempt to maintain social distancing.

Health/Wellness and Safety

Akin CCSD #91 will follow all IDPH and ISBE guidelines and requirements regarding Covid mitigations. This includes the wearing of face masks, social distancing, screening, handwashing and cleaning protocols. The district will be required to follow contact tracing and quarantine protocols put forth by the IDPH and Franklin County Health Department (FCHD). As these guidelines change and update, the district will adapt our procedures.

School year instructional programming

- Schools will continue to use technology supports to enhance instruction including software, licensing and hardware.
- Additional technology will continue building on stronger family partnerships including expanded tools for communicating with families.
- Additional curricular materials will support learning through enhancements, curricular tools and other resources to enhance learning experiences for students. These tools assist in the process of creating engaging lessons, personalized learning and monitoring student academic understanding.
- Additional furniture will allow for adequate spacing and enhanced learning experiences for students.

Student support and engagement

- Schools will provide social emotional learning; increasing equitable services for all students, competency based learning that foster inclusion.
- Schools will expand language supports for families.
- Schools will expand multi-tiered systems of support including academic, behavioral and social-emotional support.
- Schools will enhance community resources and partnerships as needs change and vary.

Signage

Each building will post signs and messages in highly visible locations that reinforce safety precautions and promote everyday protective measures (e.g., proper handwashing and appropriate face coverings). Signage posted will be outside of main entryways noting A) that persons may not enter the building if they have any currently known symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever, 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; B) a 3 to 6-foot distance from others must be maintained as much as possible; C) a face coverings is recommended, and D) shaking hands or engaging in any other physical contact is prohibited in district buildings. Akin CCSD #91 will broadcast regular announcements about reducing the spread of COVID-19 on public address systems. The district strongly encourages that each classroom share videos about behaviors that prevent the spread of COVID-19 on school websites, in emails, and on school social media accounts, as feasible.

Hand Hygiene

Frequent hand washing and hand sanitizing are key to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Staff members must clean their hands as often as possible with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol may be used. Staff and students should avoid touching their mouth, eyes, or nose as much as possible.

Staff and students should sanitize their hands upon entering the classroom each and every time. Each building will place signage reminding everyone of the need for proper hand hygiene in the appropriate areas. If assisting a student requires close contact, hand washing or sanitizing should be done before and after contact with students.

Training

Each staff member will be recommended to complete safety training related to social distancing, face-covering, and hand hygiene procedures. Akin CCSD #91 will provide training to staff that is specific to their unique circumstances. Hand hygiene and social distancing will be included in our curriculum to help educate our students on the importance of proper hand hygiene and personal safety. Employees will also be trained on the proper way to disinfect their individual workstations should they choose to do so.

Visitor Policy

Visitors should be restricted to authorized personnel only. Visitors to any building must wear an appropriate and approved face covering at all times and report directly to the main office. Students or staff will be asked to meet the visitor to conduct business as needed. Visitors will not have access to the building in general to maintain social distancing and student bubbling. This should be in addition to the normal sign-in procedures.

Transportation – BUS

All students, and driver must wear a mask on school bus.

Plan Review

Throughout the school year, this plan will be reviewed and revised as appropriate after seeking and considering public input. Revisions will address the most recently updated safety recommendations by the CDC, provided an alternative format accessible to parents who are individuals with a disability as defined by the ADA, and made publicly available on the district's website.