



## HILLSBORO HIGH SCHOOL

# Reopening Plan

2020-2021 School Year

The 2020-2021 school year will present unique challenges as we continue to provide a rigorous education for children while at the same time doing everything in our power to ensure their mental and physical health.

This plan is an overview of the instructional and health/safety guidelines that will be implemented during the 2020-2021 school year consistent with guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). Additional information about COVID-19 issues impacting schools can be located on both the <u>ISBE</u> and <u>IDPH</u> websites.





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# **Instructional Plan**

To give our staff additional time for training and other preparations unique to the current situation, we are moving the first day of student attendance to **Wednesday**, **August 19th**.

As a district, we have developed a model that gives students and families a choice between in-person instruction and remote learning. Having both options will ease the transition between in-person and remote learning should mandatory closures begin. With this said, the educational experience is greatly enhanced by the face-to-face relationships that accompany in-person instruction. Our district's preferred instructional delivery is in-person with students and staff building these relationships in a safe, supportive environment.

#### **In Person Instruction**

- ☐ In-person instruction will occur Monday through Friday from 8:05am to 1:45pm (1:09 at the high school).
- ☐ Student schedules will be followed with modified times (see below). Both core academic and elective classes will be offered with instruction focused on essential skills.
- ☐ Instruction, grading, and attendance will closely mirror past practices with emphasis upon integration of technological tools for instruction and work submission and the addition of many health and safety protocols.
- Students whose current performance indicates a loss of skills or need for review will be recommended for tutoring assistance by the appropriate teacher.

## **Remote Learning**

- ☐ The remote learning option will be very different from the program we ran this spring.
- Remote learning will occur Monday through Friday. Students should be available for video conferencing with teachers from 1:45pm to 3:45pm each day. A schedule is being developed to ensure students have opportunity for "live" interaction with each of their teachers during this time.
- Students will be tasked with independent and teacher-directed activities emphasizing the significant learning standards for each subject. These tasks will vary from hands-on to virtual and can be completed by the students on their own time schedule as long as deadlines are met. Such independent study will account for a maximum of 3 hours of learning for the fulfillment of the required approximate 5 hour school day.
- Student grades will be earned in the traditional fashion of a combination of daily participation, assignment submission, examinations, and projects.
- A combination of presence during the "live" afternoon sessions and timely completed work will be used to establish attendance.
- Any who sign up for remote learning and then do not participate in earnest will be referred to our truancy program.

## **Selection of Program**

As part of the registration process, you will be asked to select in-person instruction or remote learning. During the course of the year, program selection may be changed according to individual circumstances.





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## **Curriculum/Instruction**

It is the goal of the faculty at HHS that the remote and in-person learning programs emphasize essential skills and knowledge and are aligned in terms of instruction, resources, assignments, assessments, pacing, and rigor to the greatest extent possible.

#### Guidance

To reduce overcrowding in the guidance office and lost instructional minutes spent in waiting, students with scheduling concerns and other needs should contact Mr. Morford via email to arrange an appointment. The message should briefly outline the issue so that appointments can be organized and prioritized.

#### **Modified Bell Schedule**

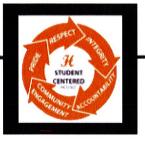
To reduce any adverse impact on student learning potentially arising from the shortened day to the greatest extent possible, the following changes have been made to our schedule:

- 1) passing periods are 4 minutes
- 2) lunch will be offered at end of day
- 3) Wednesday will be a regular dismissal day
- 4) Flex time has been eliminated

Additional individual instructional assistance for students will still be available. Arrangements should be made with individual teachers.

\*Upon dismissal at 1:09, students who walk, ride, or drive may purchase a "to go" lunch and pick it up in the cafeteria building before departing school. Bus riders will report to the cafeteria for lunch and will be dismissed at 1:35 to board their bus.

MTWTHF Bell Schedule	
0 Hr	07:20-08:00 (40 min)
1 <sup>st</sup>	08:05-08:45
2 <sup>nd</sup>	08:49-09:29
3 <sup>rd</sup>	09:33-10:13
4	10:17-10:57
5 <sup>th</sup>	11:01-11:41
6 <sup>th</sup>	11:45-12:25
7 <sup>th</sup>	12:29-01:09





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#### Arrival

- If Its students may not arrive earlier than 7:45am to ensure safe and effective procedures and supervision. Before exiting the vehicle, students should be masked (see Health and Safety Protocols). Students who drive themselves should park and immediately report to the screening tent located at the top of the stairs. Parents dropping students off should enter from Tremont Street to drop their student off at the screening tent located at the top of the student parking lot stairs. Parents are asked to remain in vehicles. The student's temperature will be taken by a staff member. Students will go directly to their assigned 1st hour classrooms (or to the cafeteria if purchasing breakfast) upon successful completion of screening.
- Students with a **0 hour class** should arrive no earlier than 7:15am and report directly to the back door of the gym where they will be screened before reporting to their assigned classrooms.

#### **Dismissal**

- If Its students should exit each building promptly according to the designated travel paths after being dismissed for the day. Bus riders should go straight to the cafeteria for lunch. Drivers, students being picked up, and walkers should go straight to their vehicles (unless picking up lunch in the cafeteria). All students, including walkers, should leave campus promptly with no loitering. Please maintain 6' social distancing as you depart.
- ☐ Students who are prearranged to remain on campus should report directly to their assigned destination

As teachers will be transitioning immediately into remote instruction, we appreciate the cooperation of all in-person learners in departing in a timely fashion.

## Transportation (Please refer to district plan for information)

#### Food

JESS students who wish to purchase breakfast will go immediately to the cafeteria after being screened. All students have the option to purchase a school lunch. All students must pre-order lunch every morning via an online form. Students who drive, are picked up, or walk may order a carry out lunch which they will pick up in the cafeteria immediately after 7th hour. Students who ride a bus will report to the cafeteria for lunch. Students will sit with the same small group at the same table each day. No sharing of food/drink items will be allowed. No food or other gift exchanges will be allowed for birthdays, etc. All of these restrictions are designed to limit the use of shared items and contacts to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and to ensure accurate contact tracing.

## **Enforcement of Expectations**

The COVID-19 pandemic is requiring a focus on others over self which can be, especially for young children, a difficult developmental concept to master. Please discuss the concept of ensuring the safety of others/self with your child prior to the start of the school year. Refusal to comply with safety regulations such as washing hands and wearing a mask or intentionally compromising the safety of others will not be tolerated. Such behaviors will result in discipline.





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## **School Supplies**

School supply lists will be posted with registration materials. Our staff will encourage less sharing/more individual use of school supplies.

## **Outdoor Classrooms/Activities**

Students will be allowed to remove their masks when outdoors while maintaining social distancing.

#### PE

Students will not be required to change clothing for PE. Lockers will not be used. Students may need a change of shoes to participate. Students registered for 0 Hour Fusion will report to HHS for PE until such time as that facility is available and functional for our purposes.

#### **Athletics**

Any athlete who is unable to return to school for afternoon practices due to transportation issues should speak with his/her coach to make arrangements to remain on campus.

## Lockers/Personal Items

Lockers will not be used. Each student should bring a book bag/backpack to school, but additional personal items such as purses, bags, etc., are discouraged.

#### Water Fountains

The district is adding water fountains with bottle stations at all buildings this summer. Only the bottle filling stations will be operational. Students are encouraged to carry a personal water bottle with them on which their name is prominently displayed.

## **Incentive Programs**

To ensure students receive the best possible learning opportunities while protecting their health and safety, we are suspending Flex and Flex time privileges until further notice. Early Out and Exam Token programs will remain in force with a maximum of two tokens available for meeting each of two criteria: 1) no disciplinary referrals and 2) an A or B in every course. The attendance requirement has been suspended until IDPH deems the pandemic as no longer a threat so that students who feel ill or experience symptoms do not feel compelled to report to school.

## **Travel Routes**

To reduce congestion and overcrowding caused by poor traffic flow in our hallways to the greatest extent possible, **HHS** has established travel routes designed to get students safely and efficiently from one area of campus or one classroom to another. Signs will be posted in the buildings to assist students and staff.

#### Main building:

IN & UP Front (west) entrance OUT & DOWN Back (east), Small Gym, Art Rm Entrances

#### Library building:

IN front entrance OUT back entrance for classrooms only OUT front entrance for lunchroom exit

#### Gym building:

IN front business wing and choir wing OUT front gym doors

#### Ag building:

IN Ag lobby door OUT Ag shop south door IN & OUT Driver's Ed door (CDT students only)





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#### **OKAW Courses**

Students enrolled in OKAW classes will leave at 8:00 and return at 12:10 which is the middle of 6th hour. Consequently, each student participating in OKAW will need to make arrangements with the guidance office to fulfill the remaining courses on his/her schedule.

#### **Freshman Orientation**

Freshman Orientation will be provided via Video presentations posted.

# **Health and Safety Protocols**

#### **Face Masks**

While at school and on the bus, students age 2 and older and adults must wear face masks except under specific exceptions. Masks should fully cover the mouth and nose, and fit snugly against the sides of the face. Reusable masks should be washed and dried after each use. Health experts recommend the use of face masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19. We recognize that this issue has become politicized and controversial. We need your help. Please talk with your student about this new expectation of wearing a face mask at school. Refusing to wear a face mask, or otherwise engaging in conduct that compromises the safety of others, will result in disciplinary consequences.

There will be times throughout the day where removing masks is permitted (e.g. lunch, recess, band) while social distancing is maintained. Teachers may provide instruction or frequent breaks outdoors so that students have relief from masks.

Please provide a mask for your student to wear. We will also be distributing washable masks to each student and employee when they are available. Disposable masks will also be available on every bus and at the entrance to every building. There might be some very rare situations that will preclude a student or staff member from wearing a mask. In these cases, other precautions will be put into place to keep students and staff safe.

## Hand Washing/Sanitizing

Students will be provided with multiple opportunities to wash hands and use hand sanitizer while at school. Sanitizing stations will be available throughout all school buildings.

## Cleaning and Fresh Air Supply

The School District has implemented extensive daily cleaning protocols for our school buildings and buses. Student work areas and shared equipment will be sanitized throughout the day between users. Each building will be deep cleaned and sanitized nightly. In addition, our HVAC systems have been adjusted to provide the maximum amount of fresh air to be blended with conditioned air and circulated in our buildings.





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## **Symptom Checks**

Everyone will be screened prior to entering a bus or building and monitored for symptoms throughout the day. Anyone exhibiting symptoms associated with COVID-19 will immediately be quarantined and assessed by the school nurse, and parents will be notified.

## **Social Distancing**

The joint ISBE and IDPH guidance recognizes that 6-foot physical social distancing between individuals is recommended, but that this will not be feasible at all times. We have taken steps to reconfigure some of our classrooms, lunchrooms and other shared spaces with social distancing in mind. Each building is taking steps to choreograph student movement with the goal of maintaining social distancing.

## Contact Tracing, Quarantine, and Exclusions

School personnel will be working closely with the Montgomery County Health Department. In the eventuality of a suspected exposure to COVID-19, the district will supply the health department with information such as seating charts and student/staff schedules. The health department will then conduct contract tracing and make decisions regarding those who need to quarantine and/or be excluded.

#### **School Closures**

In the event that a short-term closure to clean and disinfect the school or a long-term school closure is required or mandated, all students will transition to remote learning. This will be communicated as soon as possible after state and local health officials make this determination.

#### **Student Illness**

Please let us know when your child is ill. We simply cannot protect the health of our students and staff without your help. We are obligated by law to keep this information confidential. We are required to track both staff and student illnesses to inform local health officials and initiate contact tracing, if necessary. Both ISBE and IDPH have issued the following list of COVID-19 symptoms that must be reported to school and that require exclusion from school: 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.

School personnel will communicate with you directly regarding the necessary school exclusion period and return to school protocols.

During absences due to illness, your child will be allowed to make up all missed work and assignments. The missed school days will be marked 'excused' and your child may participate in the remote learning platform if deemed appropriate.





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#### **Close Contact at Home**

One of the most complex and daunting aspects of COVID-19 for schools is the contagious nature of the virus. For this reason, we ask that you let us know if your child has had close contact with a family member or friend who is either exhibiting symptoms of or has been diagnosed with COVID-19. Examples include siblings, parents, grandparents, other relatives, babysitters, etc., whether they reside in your home or not. We are asking for this information because it tends to be one of the first questions that local health officials ask us for purposes of contact tracing. This additional information will help us stay ahead of our reporting obligations and also help us better serve your child, who will potentially need additional social-emotional supports.

#### **Close Contact at School**

Either local health officials or school personnel will notify you if your child comes in close contact at school with a student or staff member who has contracted COVID-19. We will provide this information to you without specifying names or any other personally identifiable information. We understand that this may be frustrating, but school districts are bound by strict confidentiality laws. You may receive this notification directly from the local health authorities and not school personnel due to coordination of efforts and contact tracing requirements.

#### Visitors

Due to the pandemic, visitors to our school buildings will be limited to those persons with essential business. All visitors will be screened and may be denied entry.





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# **Additional Considerations**

#### Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities will be limited to protect against the spread and transmission of COVID-19. More information about any offerings will be provided to you at the building level.

#### Social Emotional Resources

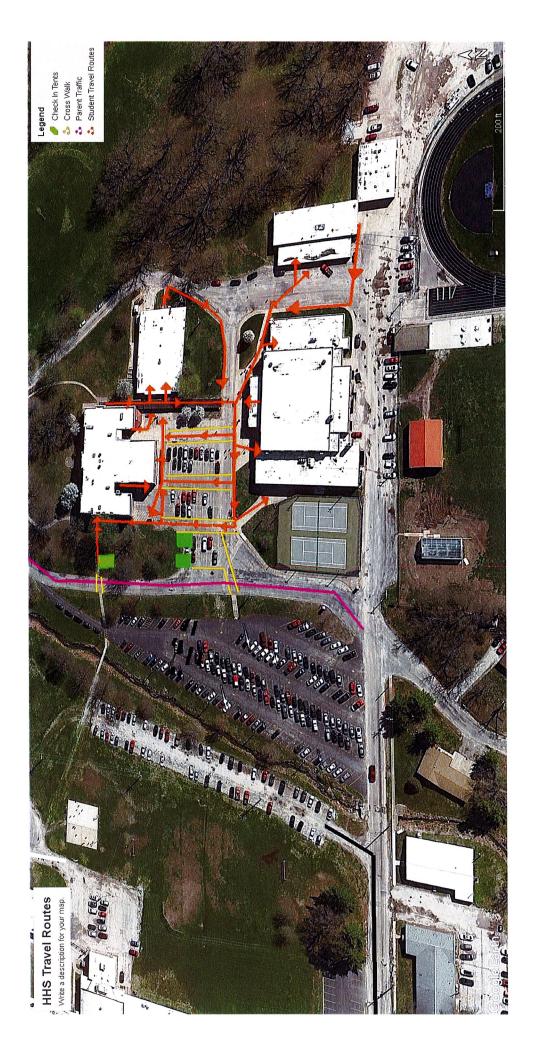
The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the mental health of all of our stakeholders - teachers, staff, community members, students and their families. School personnel are trained to monitor and address the mental and emotional wellbeing of students and staff members. Individual and small group counseling will be available for students at school. Please contact your building principal for more information.

## **Family Assistance**

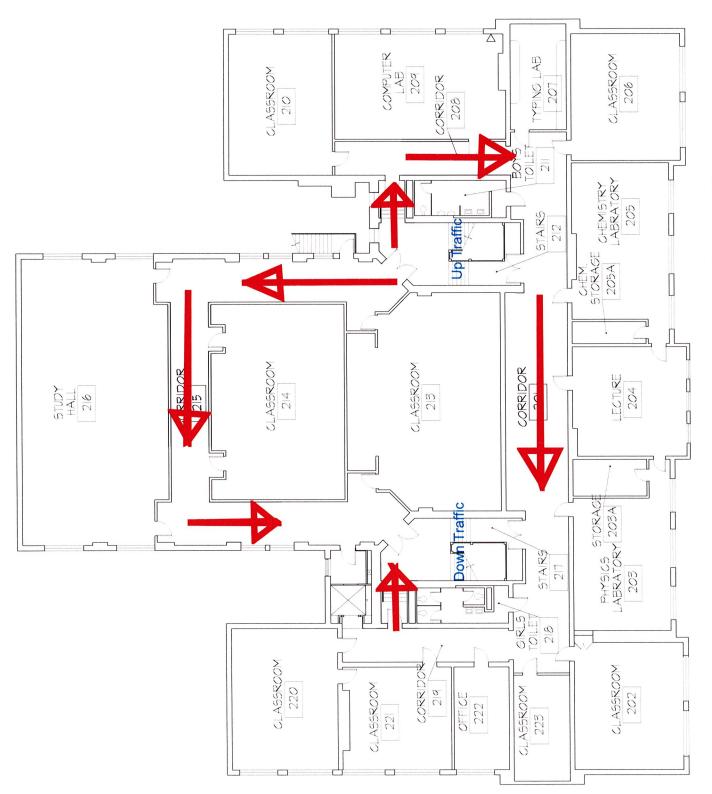
We recognize that this is a complex and difficult time for many of our families. If your family requires extra assistance in relation to any basic need such as food, clothing, school supplies, etc., please contact the building principal who will work with you to locate assistance. Please do not hesitate to ask for help - we are here to help you through this difficult time.

We are 'prepared for the unexpected' and will stay in close contact with you as the situation develops. In the meantime, we are excited to welcome your children back to school!

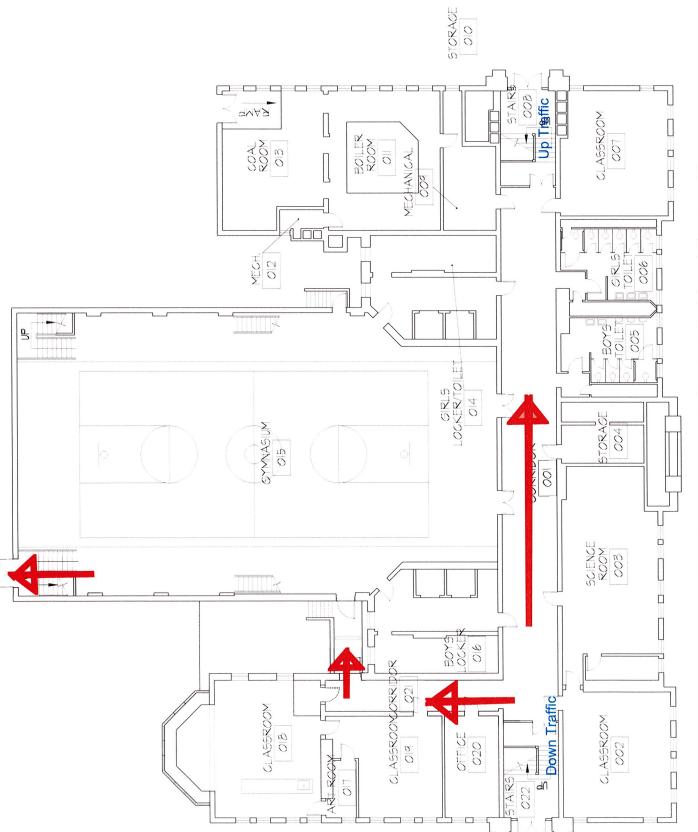
Please know that you have our thanks and gratitude. The end of last school year was especially difficult for parents who were required to oversee remote learning from your homes. We recognize your efforts and we are prepared to meet your child's needs. We cannot predict exactly what lies ahead of us, but know that we are committed to you and your child. We will get through this together.



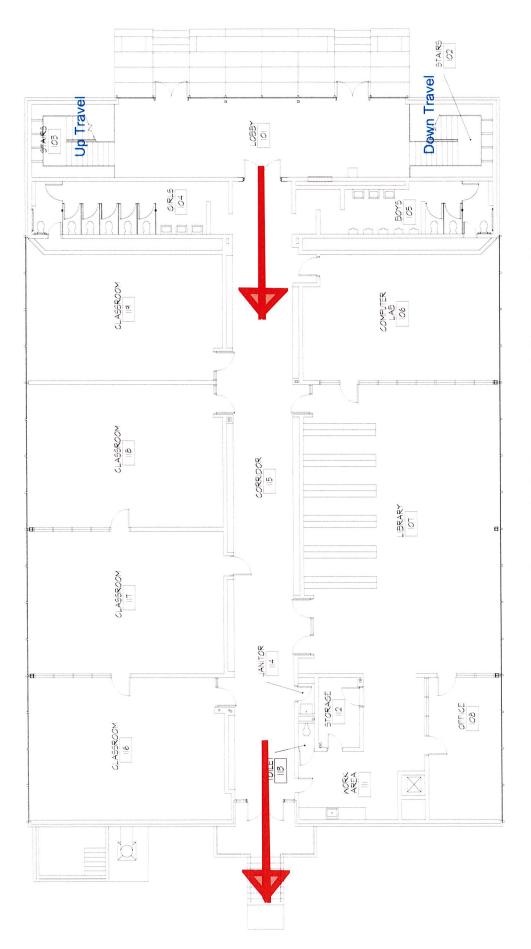
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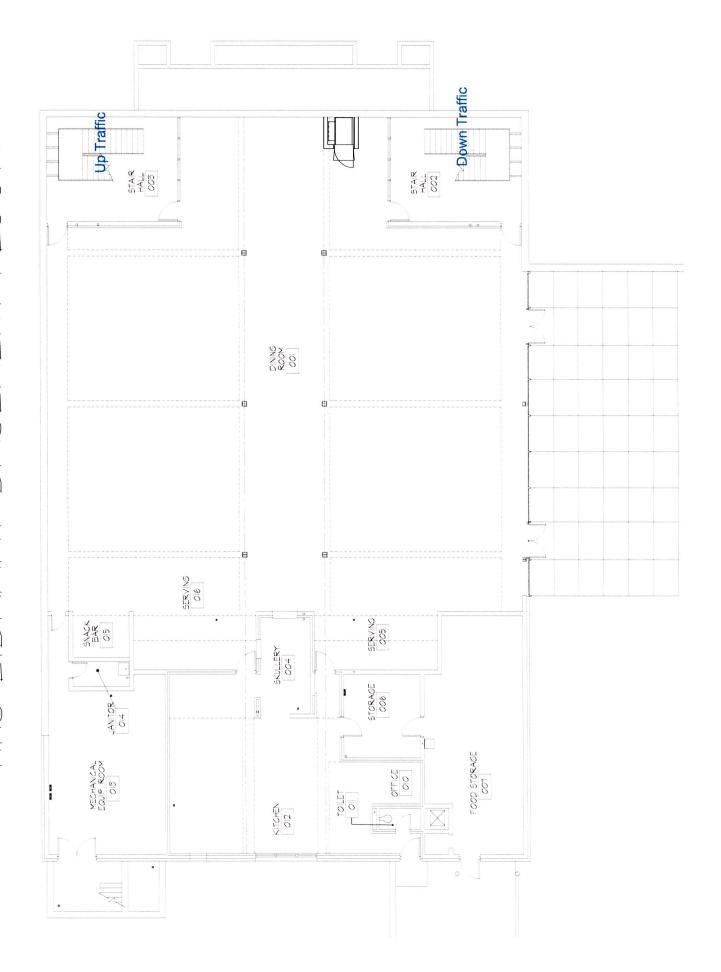
HHS MAIN BLDG SECOND FLOOR



HHS MAIN BLDG BASEMENT FLOOR



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