

# Schools Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services for West40 Regional Safe Schools Programs

Date: 07/14/21

Date Revised (2/11/22)

1. West40 Regional Safe Schools will maintain the health and safety of students, families and staff to the greatest extent possible. The policies found below are descriptions of safety protocols based on the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). These policies will be amended and updated as community risk changes or as further guidance from one or all of the aforementioned agencies is shared. The "Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan" was developed using resources from the Center for Disease Control, Illinois Department of Public Health, Illinois State Board of Education, west Cook County and suburban school districts. Input was gathered from students, staff, administrators, and the members of the West40 School community. All students and families had individual "Safe Return" meetings in native languages prior to the return of students and staff.

The most current COVID 19 information including regional positivity rates, number of new case metrics, and vaccination and testing sites are shared with staff, students, and families regularly in native languages.

## A. Universal and correct wearing of masks

Per ISBE recommendations, all unvaccinated students and staff members will be required to wear a mask while in the school building. Unvaccinated students, staff and visitors will be given a mask, if one is not available to them. Students will be given instruction on how to properly wear a mask.



**UNVACCINATED**  
or not yet fully vaccinated

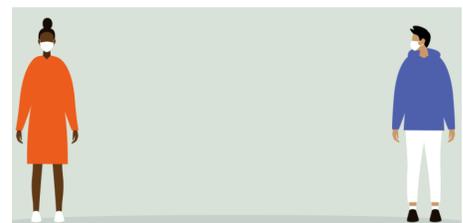


**VACCINATED**

If there is an unvaccinated student or staff member who cannot wear a mask for medical reasons, a physician note is needed.

## B. Physical distancing

Students and staff must remain 6 feet socially-distanced to the greatest extent possible. Signage to remind people to maintain social distance will be posted throughout the building. (Although the ISBE guidance is 3 feet, using 6 feet as a guide will ensure our ability to reduce risk of losing students to quarantine if an active case presents itself in our school community. As long as our enrollment and physical



space allows us to remain 6 feet apart, we will continue to use that standard. If and when the 6 feet standard cannot be met, we will follow guidance that recommends the greatest distance or a minimum of 3 feet.)

Anyone who is symptomatic or has a temperature of 100.4 or higher will follow quarantine protocols and be sent home.

### C. Handwashing or hand sanitizer

Use of hand sanitizer or hand washing for 20 seconds is required. Hand sanitizer will be made available at each building entrance. There will also be hand sanitizers found in each classroom, office, and hallway.

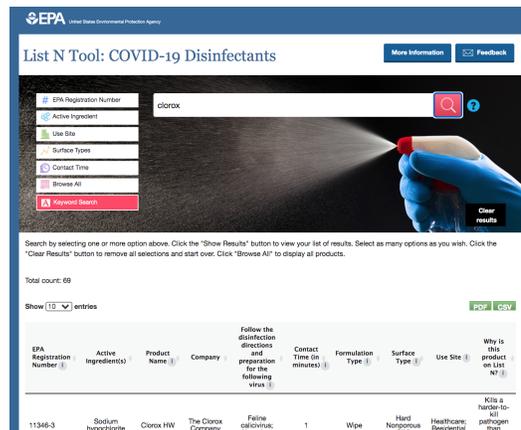


There will be daily routine walkthroughs to inspect that all products are full and functioning.

### D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

Surfaces will be cleaned with EPA approved COVID-eliminating disinfectants. While school is in session, all common high touch areas will be cleaned multiple times during the course of the day.

EPA recommended cleaning products will be available to all staff to clean commonly used surfaces such as keyboards, desks, and remote controls before use. The district will ensure adequate supplies to support cleaning and disinfection practices.



Cleaning products used by West40 include: BIOTAB 7, Virex TB, Clorox hydrogen peroxide and Clorox products. More information about these products can be found at <https://cfpub.epa.gov/wizards/disinfectants/>

All building areas have additional fans for increased ventilation.

### E. Active COVID case, contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the IDPH

Upon confirmation of a COVID diagnosis, West40 staff will work with a student, family or staff member to make contact with the regional entity conducting contact tracing.

West40 will follow all recommendations of the IDPH COVID 19 FAQ

[https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/covid19/guidance/school/DPH-ISBE%20School%20FAQ\\_1820.pdf](https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/covid19/guidance/school/DPH-ISBE%20School%20FAQ_1820.pdf)

CDC cleaning protocols will be implemented. Any quarantine or school closure will be determined in concert with the Cook County Department of Health. West40 will maintain logs of contacts, dates of exposure, quarantine dates.

## **F. Diagnostic and screening**

All students, staff or visitors entering the building will be required to have a temperature check and answer COVID symptom questions.

Any individual with the following symptoms should not report to school: fever or chills; cough; shortness of breath; fatigue; muscle or body aches; headache; new loss of taste or smell; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; diarrhea.



If any individual presents the aforementioned symptoms at screening or during school hours, quarantine protocols will be followed and the individual will be asked to return to his or her home.

## **G. Efforts to provide vaccinations to staff and students, if eligible:**

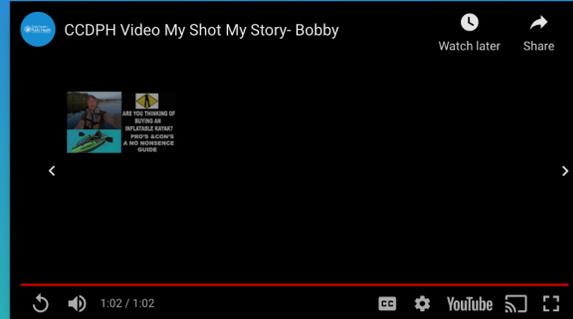
West40 will collaborate with the Cook County Health Department and local health care facilities in order to disseminate vaccination information.

<https://myshotcookcounty.com/locations/>

The vaccines will help keep you from getting severe COVID-19

Getting vaccinated is the best way to keep yourself, your loved ones, and your community healthy. If Bobby can do it, so can you. 😊

 [Find a vaccine](#)



# COOK COUNTY HEALTH VACCINATION LOCATIONS

Walk-ins welcome at Cook County Health sites!

Click a location on the map below for vaccination site hours and details, or scroll down for a complete list of sites.