



Prospect Heights School District 23

September 18, 2020

Targeted, In-Person Instruction

Spanish Translation

Dear Parents and Staff,

At our Board Meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 18, we discussed updates to our Back to School Blueprint and presented our plan for return to in person learning. These decisions will be based on meeting our CAPACITY and HEALTH and SAFETY metrics. These are based on the most recent guidance from CDC, Illinois, and the Cook County Departments of Public Health. Please understand these metrics must be viewed as a whole, not individual thresholds.

Throughout this school year, the Distance Learning 2.0 option will remain available for all families. During our targeted in person phase, we have the capacity to run specific programs and provide services and instruction to our neediest and most at-risk student populations. Our SAIL program, which serves some of our students with Special Education needs, has been on campus in each of our schools since **September 2nd**.

On Tuesday, **September 22**, we will welcome our Early Childhood programs back to campus and on Tuesday, **September 29**, we are targeting our Kindergarten programs to begin.

We are also making modifications to our calendar to schedule Distance Learning Planning Days, which will be days of NON-attendance for students (October 19, November 16, December 14) and introducing Flex Learning Days (October 5, October 26, November 9, November 30, December 7) that ARE attendance days for students. These changes are responsive to the student, parent and staff feedback and will support our goals for collaborative planning, 1:1 and small group instruction, and reduction of screen time.

Lastly, as we continue to monitor and refine our plan, we are investigating modifying the daily schedule to better align lunch periods for students participating from home. We will share updates as we are ready to implement.

The recording of the full board meeting can be found on our [FaceBook page linked here](#) and the slide presentation can be [found here](#).

The data below is reflective of our status on 9/18/20 which

Upcoming Events

September 22
Early Childhood
Program returns to
campus.

NO SCHOOL
September 28

September 29
Targeted return to
campus for
Kindergarten students

October 5
FLEX Learning Day
Day of Attendance

NO SCHOOL
October 12



**Board of
Education
Meeting**

**October 14, 2020
7:00 pm**

**At Grodsky Building or
Attend Virtually**

**Follow these links
to the COVID
Guidance and Data
monitoring sites:**

[Center for Disease
Control School
Guidance](#)

[CDC Transmission
Metrics](#)

[Illinois Department of
Public Health](#)

continues our placement in the Targeted In-Person instruction.

Capacity Metrics			Health and Safety Metrics				Current Status
Operational Metrics	Mitigation	Staffing Capacity	Status	Local Case Rate	Regional Case Rate	Positivity Rate	
Significant Impact	< 10 per space	Unable to Staff	Schools Closed - Substantial Community Transmission	> 100 per 100,000	> 100 per 100,000	>8.0%	
Significant Impact	< 25 per space	Significant Impact	Targeted Only - Moderate Community Transmission	51-99 per 100,000	51-99 per 100,000	5.0%-7.9%	Local Cases - 71.4 Local Positivity - 3.55% Regional Cases - 65 Regional Positivity - 4.5%
Minimal Impact	< 50 per space	Moderate Impact	Hybrid Attendance - Moderate Community Transmission	7-50 per 100,000	7-50 per 100,000	5.0%-7.9%	
Minimal Impact	< 50 per space	Minimal Impact	Schools Open - Minimal Community Transmission	< 7 per 100,000	< 7 per 100,000	< 5%	

At this time, based on current data and metrics, we do NOT anticipate being able to transition to in person instruction beyond our targeted students.

When we have the capacity and it is safe to do so, we have developed a hybrid model of attendance that will provide greater social distancing and enable better monitoring of close contact. In this model, approximately 50% of the students in their classroom/cohort will be invited for two full days of in person instruction.

In an effort to support families with multiple school aged children, students with last names A-L would attend on Tuesday and Wednesday while those with last name M-Z would attend on Thursday and Friday. All health and safety measures would be in full effect, transportation, food service, and Extended Day program would all be available.

Moving forward, we will be surveying families as to their preference to remain in Distance Learning 2.0 or if the hybrid model would be a helpful option. These will take place over the next two weeks.

We will monitor our metrics and continue rolling reentry every two weeks, providing 10 days of notice prior to a return to in person. We will also continue to refine our Distance Learning Plan and remain in communication with neighboring Districts.

I want you to know that we do hear the concerns that have been communicated to us and understand the significant impact of these decisions. We are doing our best to provide the most engaging, rigorous, and supportive Distance Learning experience while continuing our efforts to expand targeted and eventually hybrid in person instruction.

I thank you for everything you are doing to to make the best of this challenging situation and for your continued partnership on behalf of your children.

Sincerely,

Dr. A

[Guidance](#)

[IDPH Metrics](#)

[IDPH Adaptive Pause Metrics](#)

[Cook County Department of Public Health \(North District\)](#)

[Northwestern University COVID Dashboard](#)

[Northern Illinois Public Health Consortium Return to School Metrics](#)

Quick Links



Visit the D23 website





Meal Distributions

Due to the recent extension of a waiver by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, we are excited to be able to expand our weekly meal distributions.

Five-day meal bags will be provided at no cost and available for **all** children under the age of 18. Distributions will be held every Wednesday in front of the MacArthur Cafeteria with a new pickup time, **between 3-6PM**.

Please contact Amy McPartlin in the Business Office (847) 870-5552 with any questions.

[Link to: Board of Education Agendas and Meeting Highlights](#) [September 16, 2020](#)

Board Reviews Back to School Blueprint

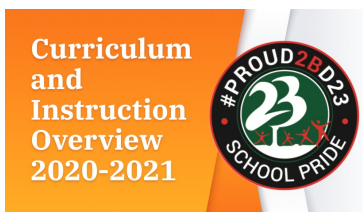
Dr. Angelaccio and the administrative team presented an update to the Back to School Blueprint to the Board of Education. The presentation and video are included in the School Scene Friday, September 18. Parents are encouraged to visit the [Back to School Blueprint Website](#) for updated information, presentations, forms, and other resources.

FY21 Budget Approved

Amy McPartlin, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, presented the 2020-2021 Annual Budget. After discussion with the Finance Committee, the budget was prepared using conservative assumptions to provide sustainability during these uncertain economic times.



Curriculum and Instruction Overview



Dr. Amy Zaher, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction provided the annual overview of all things related to Teaching and Learning including adoptions, committee work, professional development topics, and assessment.

The presentation can be [viewed at this link](#).

Calendar Update

The following dates have been added as days of NON-ATTENDANCE for students to provide Distance Learning planning days as encouraged by the Illinois State Board of Education:

Monday, October 19, 2020
Monday, November 14, 2020

The updated 2020-2021 School Calendar can be found on our [website at this link](#).



Congratulations and Welcome!

We congratulate the following staff who have achieved tenured status in District 23 as of the start of the 2020-21 School Year:

Jonathan Boyer, MacArthur
Kelsey Paeth, Sullivan
Sam Simpson, MacArthur
Hannah Sutter, MacArthur
Demetra Zarafonitis, Ross



We welcome the following individuals to the Prospect Heights School District 23 community for the 2020-21 School Year:

Shawna Hoots, School Psychologist, Eisenhower
Meghan Slowik, 4th Grade Teacher, Sullivan
Stella Geller, 2nd Grade Teacher, Ross
Mollie Coates, ELA/SS (ESL), MacArthur
Jamie Gross, Speech and Language Pathologist, Sullivan
Mark Lewinthal, OT, Eisenhower
Meghan Brennan, LBS Teacher, Ross
Bradley Sultan, 8th Grade Teacher, MacArthur
Stephanie Piasecki, School Social Worker, MacArthur



National Recognition for MacArthur Middle School

We are so excited to announce that MacArthur Middle School was recognized as a National Banner Unified Champion School! Congrats to all the staff, students, and everyone who has contributed to the success and growth of this amazing program in District 23.



Fall 2020

MacArthur Middle School
700 N Schoenbeck Rd.
Prospect Heights, IL 60070

Dear Dr. Don Angelaccio, Dr. Chryst Stoka, Dr. Camron Nystrom, Ms. Abbey Lynch, Students and Staff,

Congratulations!

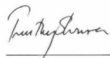
On behalf of Special Olympics International, Special Olympics North America and Special Olympics Illinois we are honored to declare Douglas MacArthur Middle School an official Special Olympics national banner Unified Champion School! Under your leadership, the MacArthur Middle School staff and students have demonstrated their commitment to inclusion.

Your school community has shown impressive determination and is helping us move towards our collective goal of creating a truly 'Unified Generation' of young people who embrace differences and lead social change. You are literally redefining the future as you make your communities more inclusive of people with intellectual disabilities, and in doing so, making the world a more accepting place for all.

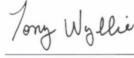
Since you've come this far, we want to personally challenge you to push even further. Continue to support the innovative minds of youth and adults in your school and be leaders in inclusion in your community.

We look forward to seeing Douglas MacArthur Middle School forge new paths towards inclusion for people of all abilities, and transforming the world in the process. Seize this moment and claim your rightful place as agents of dignity and unity.

Best wishes,



Timothy P. Shriver, Ph.D.
Chairman
Special Olympics International



Tony Wylie
Regional President & Managing Director
Special Olympics North America

Special Olympics
1133 19th Street NW, Washington D.C., 20036-3604, Country Tel + 1 202 628 3530 Fax + 1 202 624 0200
www.specialolympics.org Twitter @specialolympics
Created by the Special Olympics. Provided for the benefit of persons with intellectual disabilities.



We are hosting a Blood Drive to support our community.
Appointment times are available.

**Thursday
October**

1

9:00am - 2:00pm

Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.

The SARS COV-2 antibody test, AKA COVID-19 Antibody Test (CAT), will be performed on all blood donations as part of our standard testing.

**Prospect Heights School District #23
MacArthur Middle School Cafeteria**

700 N. Schoenbeck Rd.
Prospect Heights, IL 60070

Use the QR Code to create an account and set up a time for an appointment.



- * Appointments are 20-30 minutes
- * Health and Safety protocols in place
- * More details about restrictions and guidelines on Versiti website

Versiti serves Northwest Community Hospital and other area health centers. Participating in this drive will help save lives in our community.

Blood Drive



PROSPECT HEIGHTS PARK DISTRICT

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

2020 PROGRAM GUIDE

847.394.2848



PHPARKS.ORG

SPECIAL EVENTS

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17
SPOOKFEST**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23
VIRTUAL HALLOWEEN
FAMILY BINGO**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20
VIRTUAL FAMILY
TURKEY BINGO NIGHT**



110 W CAMP MCDONALD ROAD
PROSPECT HEIGHTS IL 60070



Connect With Us



Administration: (847) 870-3850

Dr. Don Angelaccio
Superintendent

Dr. Amy Zaher
Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum and Instruction

Mrs. Amy McPartlin

Dr. Chrys Sroka
Director of Special Education

Mrs. Maria Stavropoulos
Director of Technology

Mr. Brian Rominski
Director of Buildings & Grounds



*Create opportunities
that inspire all
students to grow as
learners, individuals,
and citizens.*

District 23 Vision Statement