



Fall 2020 Learning Recommendations

July 2020

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Context

- **Restore Illinois Plan** – Encourages schools to reopen for in-person instruction in phase 4, in compliance with ISBE/IDPH joint guidance
- **ISBE/IDPH Transition Joint Guidance** – was released in three parts, Part 3, released June 23, 2020 outlines health & safety requirements for starting the 2020-2021 school year

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Purpose

- Through the development and implementation of strategic and innovative instructional plans and practices in all learning contexts, to assist educators in addressing unfinished learning from spring 2020 and reduce or eliminate future learning loss.

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Advisory Group

- 58 Illinois PK-12 stakeholders representing the diversity of our state:
 - Students
 - Teachers
 - Paraprofessionals
 - Principals/School Leaders
 - District Superintendents & Staff
 - Regional Superintendents
 - Agency Staff
 - Illinois Resource Center Staff
 - University Dual Credit Coordinator
 - Local Board of Education Members



Formats for Learning

- In-Person: Learning that occurs when a teacher and student are in the same physical space
- Remote: Learning that occurs when students and teachers are separate physically
- Blended: Learning that leverages both in-person and remote formats

ISBE and IDPH agree that in-person is optimal, but recognize that it may not be safe or feasible in every school community or every child



Instructional Time

- Full Day Students
 - 5 clock hours of instruction in all learning formats
 - 2.5 hours of synchronous learning with real-time instruction and interaction between students and their teachers is strongly encouraged
- Half Day Students
 - 2 clock hours of instruction in all learning formats (2.5 for Preschool For All programs)
 - 1.5 hours of synchronous learning with real-time instruction and interaction between students and their teachers is strongly encouraged



Addressing Learning Loss

- **Resist** back-to-basics remediation
- Utilize **high quality instructional materials** (relevant, standards aligned, knowledge rich, strategically sequenced) in all learning formats
- Use formative assessment to **diagnose student learning loss** and practice **regular analysis of data**
- Provide **opportunities for on-grade deep and broad learning in authentic contexts**



Parents & Caregivers

- Proactively **partner** with caregivers
- Offer **flexibility** and **choices** to best meet the needs of every family and child
- Provide **equitable remote options** at the request of caregivers
- **Prepare** students and caregivers for possible transitions between learning formats based on outbreaks or exposure
- Carefully **review local policies** related to student-caregiver communication



Grading

- Students should receive grades in Fall 2020
- Districts are asked to reconsider their regular grading policies to determine if they meet student needs in the current local context and implement or make adjustments accordingly
- We encourage educators to carefully consider the unique circumstances each student is experiencing and consider those when assigning final grades
- Specific, actionable feedback is powerful and essential - **students can learn without grades, but they cannot learn without formative assessment and feedback**



Q&A

Type Questions into Webinar Portal.

Frequent questions will be compiled and added to our FAQ.

Please email covid19@isbe.net with any remaining unanswered questions after the FAQ is released.

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