



QUINCY AREA VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL CENTER

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As we prepare for the 21-22 School Year, our world may be much different than last year or previous years. We will have some families ready to move on from COVID restrictions. We will have some families still very concerned about the possible spread of the virus. In Quincy, we will look out for the safety of our students. We will take lessons learned from 181 days of in-person instruction in a pandemic in 2020-2021 and lessons from remote options at all levels. We have built a plan that meets the needs of our community and our students. The plan is vetted through the Adams County Health Department, and we are recommending approval by the QPS Board of Education.

In-Person and Remote Learning

Quincy Public Schools will conduct predominantly in-person instruction for the 2021-22 School Year. You can refer to schedules, start times, end times, bell times on our QPS website. We will still social distance as best we can in classrooms and hallways, using three feet distance as our goal. We will use our vast greenspace and outdoor opportunities.

Remote Options

Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, all schools must resume fully in-person learning for all student attendance days, provided that, pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/10-30](#) and [105 ILCS 5/34-18.66](#), remote instruction be made available for students who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine or who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine, only while they are under quarantine consistent with guidance or requirements from a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health. Remote learning in the context of [105 ILCS 5/10-30](#) and [105 ILCS 5/34-18.66](#) would still be required for students who are both not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine and also under a quarantine order. Students who do not meet these criteria may be eligible for home/hospital instruction pursuant to [105 ILCS 5/14-13.01](#) 📄

School will resume to fully in-person learning for all student attendance days. Students who are required to quarantine will have alternate instruction made available, only while they are under quarantine consistent with guidance or requirements from a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Quincy Senior High School and The Academy (Alternative school, formerly ACRSS and ABC) will offer an online academy. Students that apply for the Online Academy will be able to access Edgenuity and QSHS developed courses. There are some stipulations with this course that has changed. Most students will take tests and quizzes on campus in a safe environment.

Sickness/ Illness of Staff and Students

All students and staff with COVID symptoms as defined by the CDC and IDPH must stay home and not attend school.

Quarantining and Contact Tracing

The nurses will be following the (CDC/IDPH) or (health department) guidelines to determine when a student needs to quarantine. Unvaccinated students will be placed in quarantine if they are in close contact to a positive COVID person. Those vaccinated will only quarantine if they show symptoms.

Masks and Safety Layers

In accordance with the most recent release of CDC, IDPH, and ISBE school guidance, layered mitigations will still be in place, such as physical distancing, masking in indoor settings (school, public transportation, and buses), quarantining, testing, and increased sanitizing, especially in common areas. If local conditions change, mitigations may be removed or added, as deemed necessary by the local health department or the School Board.

Lockers

Locker use at the Junior High will resume for the 2021-22 School Year. Lockers at the High School are optional. If you want a QSHS locker, please notify the high school.

Starting the School Day and Lunch

The start of the school day will be like the 2020-21 School Year. We found fewer student management issues. K-8 Breakfast will be available and eaten in classrooms. High school will eat breakfast in the cafeteria. Students will be asked to move directly to their first class as they arrive.

Lunch will be served in the cafeterias. Elementary schools may use media centers to reduce student numbers in cafeterias. High school will have six lunch periods.

Busing

Busing will fully resume. Routes and pick-up times will be communicated. Bus capacity is still listed at 50 passengers. At this time masks are required on all public transportation including school buses.

Capacity at Events

Events will resume at full capacity in the fall of 2021. Most clubs, athletic events, and music events will be back on a traditional schedule. Schedules will be published by the athletic office and Music office.

Visitors

Quincy Public Schools will again welcome our volunteers, presenters, parents, and special guests back into our schools. We ask if you have symptoms, or you are a close contact of an individual positive with COVID or has symptoms, you do not come to the school.

Cleaning

Quincy Public Schools will continue to take special care with the cleaning of all student facilities. If a positive incident should occur, we will take extra cleaning precautions in those areas.

Field Trips

Field trips will be used for educational purposes on a limited basis.

Prepare for Change

Things will change. Last year, even though our overall plan stayed the same the entire year, we were constantly adjusting. We will do the same this year. We can always become less restrictive as conditions change. We will also prepare to be more restrictive if the virus spreads more in the Quincy and Adams County Area. We are watching the Delta Variant and discussing data with Jerrod Welch at the ACHD often. We will be responsive to our community. Last year, we felt we were preventing the spread by early identification of individuals with symptoms and our other control measures. We plan to continue to be a great community partner in the reduction of this virus. Changes may occur quickly, but they will always be in consultation with the Board of Education and Adams County Health Department.