



FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT 79

Lake County Health Department Return to School Metrics

Fremont School District 79 has been working closely with the Lake County Health Department over the past several months, and continues to do so, as we navigate matters related to COVID-19. The Lake County Health Department, in concert with the Local Health Departments of the Northern Illinois Public Health Consortium (NIPHC), has developed [Return to School Metrics](#) to provide recommendations for local school districts.

Fremont School District 79 will rely on these health department return to school metrics to guide our instructional model decisions for the start of the second trimester and beyond. There are three metrics used to advise school districts, which are described further in the below sections:

- Incidence Rate;
- COVID-19 Like Illness Admissions; and
- Diagnostic Testing Turn-Around Time.

School districts are advised to: meet all three return to school metrics for 10 consecutive days before transitioning to the next phase (all three metrics have to align), remain in their current phase for at least 10 days before transitioning to the next phase, first transition to hybrid learning from remote learning before transitioning to full in-person learning, and quickly move back to a more conservative phase if all three metrics no longer align.

If all three of these metrics align to recommend hybrid learning on October 26, we will plan to implement hybrid learning for the second trimester beginning on November 12. Please note that, in the event the health department metrics support transitioning to hybrid learning on October 26 as a result of at least 10 consecutive days of the metrics supporting hybrid learning, those metrics will need to continue to support hybrid learning through November 12. In the event that the health department metrics no longer support hybrid learning for November 12, or anytime after we transition to hybrid learning, the District will need to revert back to remote learning, possibly with minimal notice.

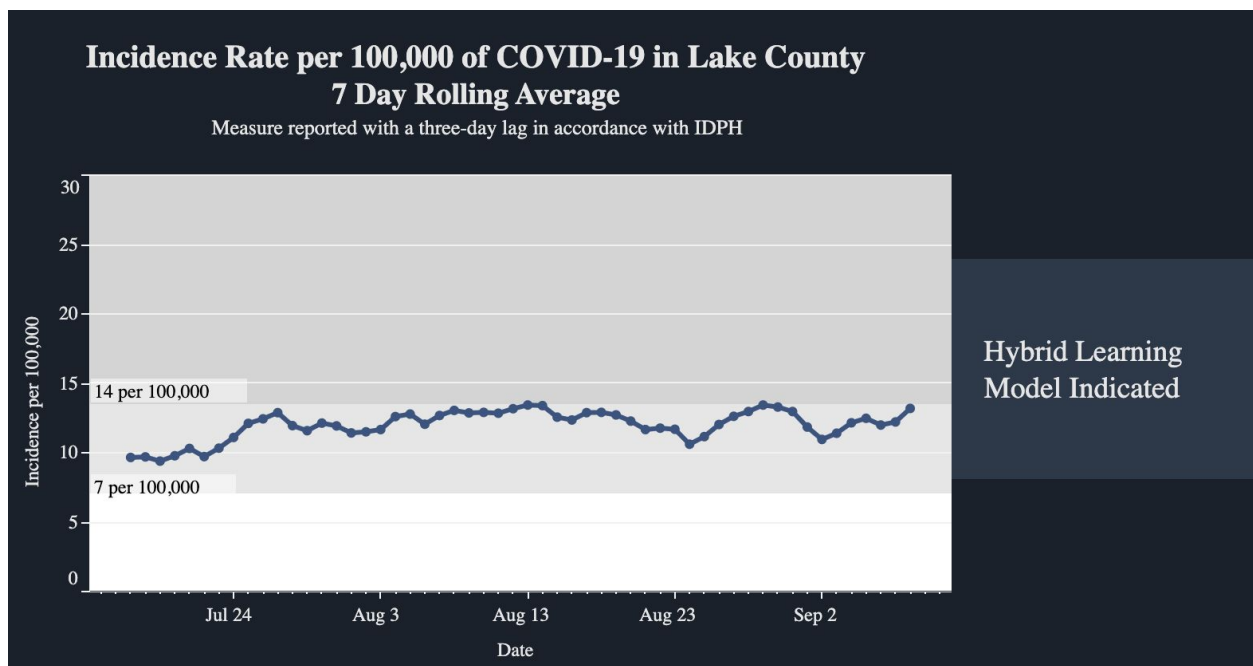
Parents will still have the option to choose full remote learning for their child if the District proceeds with hybrid learning.

Metric #1: Incidence Rate

This metric is calculated by dividing the total number of new confirmed cases each day by the total county population, then multiplying it by 100,000, as reported through the Illinois National Disease Surveillance System. This metric is assessed using a 7-day rolling average, rounded to the nearest whole number.

Remote learning is recommended at rates above 14 per 100,000, hybrid learning is recommended for rates between 7 and 14 per 100,000, and in-person learning is recommended for rates below 7 per 100,000. In order for a change in phase to be indicated for this metric, incidence rates must be in a certain threshold for at least 7 consecutive days.

Example Model Incidence Rate Metric

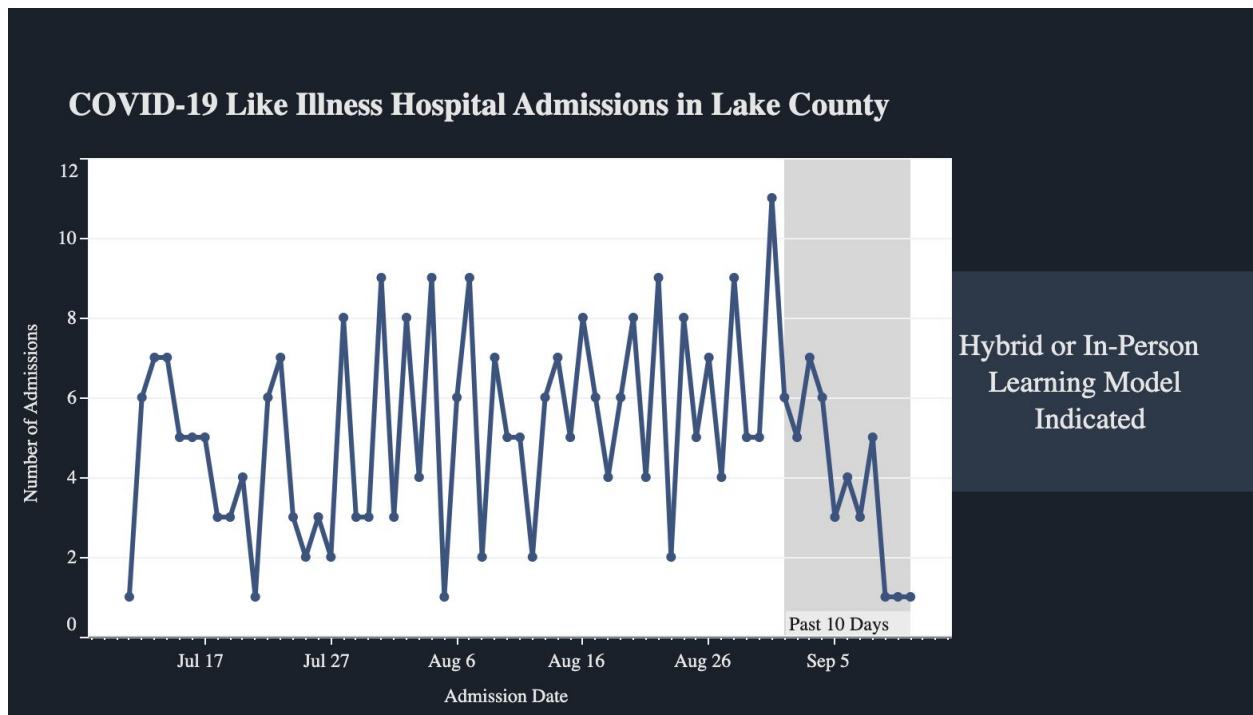


Metric #2: COVID-19 Like Illness Admissions

This metric is the number of hospital admissions for COVID-19 like illness across all ages, as reported through the Illinois National Disease Surveillance System. Released each week, this metric is evaluated as the number of days of non-increasing value out of 10.

Remote learning is recommended when less than 7 out of the last 10 days have non-increasing (decreasing or the same) value. Hybrid or in-person learning is recommended when 7 or more out of the last 10 days have a non-increasing value.

Example COVID-19 Like Illness Admissions Metric

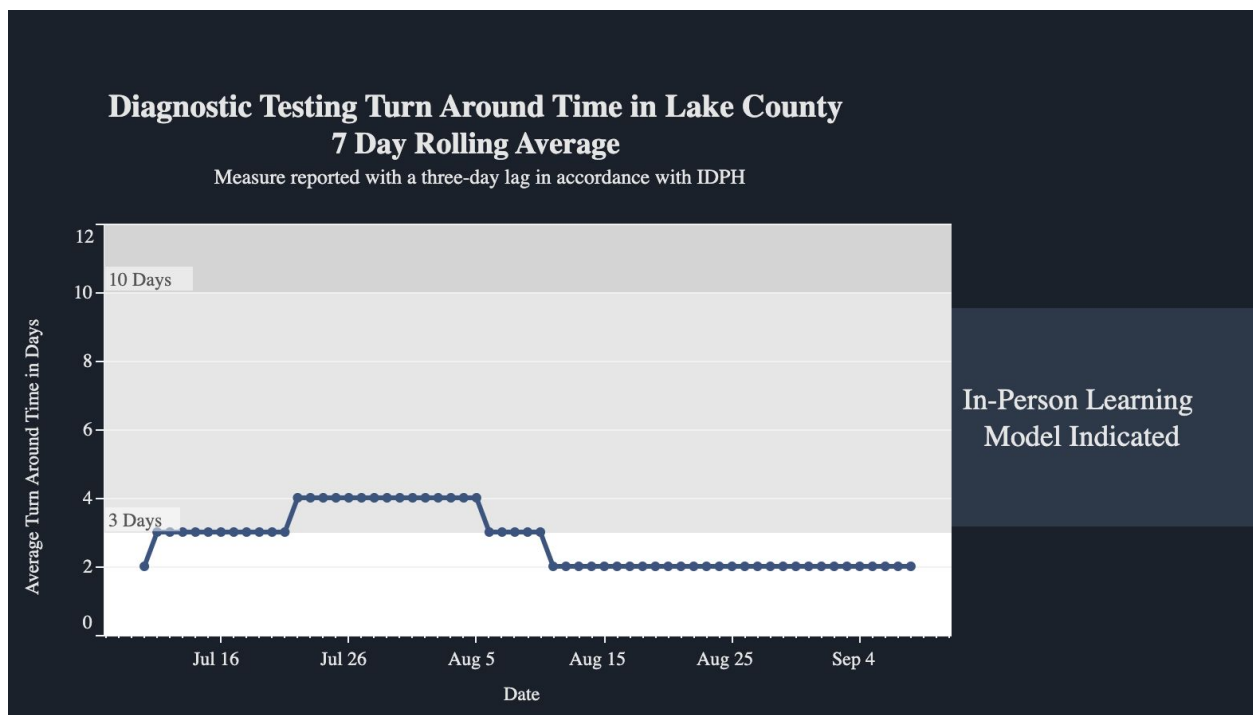


Metric #3: Diagnostic Testing Turn-Around Time

This metric is calculated by taking the average number of days between when a diagnostic test sample is collected and when that test result is entered into the Electronic Lab Reporting System. This metric is assessed using a 7-day rolling average, rounded to the nearest whole number.

Remote learning is recommended for turnaround times greater than 10 days, hybrid learning is recommended for turnaround times between 3 and 10 days, and in-person learning is recommended for turnaround times less than 3 days.

Example Diagnostic Testing Turn-Around Time Metric



In conclusion, the District will continue to work closely with the Lake County Health Department and will also continuously monitor the return to school metrics as we approach October 26.