



COVID-19 MONITORING PROGRAM

Weekly Report 8



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Purpose

Each week, a monitor is on-site at two Butler School District 53 schools, Brook Forest Elementary and Butler Junior High School. The purpose of the monitoring visits is to observe compliance with the most current COVID-19 pandemic guidance. Weekly, observations will be recorded in this report and supplemented with survey responses provided by parents and staff. The monitor works with the administration to identify varying times to visit the school each week to ensure monitoring encapsulates observations from different school day components.

The monitoring program aims to keep students and staff safe in the modified school environment and protect the broader community. The report provides the administration with the ability to make informed decisions and amend actions to maintain a safe learning environment.

Week of October 23, 2020 Summary

Report Date	10/23/2020
Observer	Keith Ponce
Schools Observed	Brook Forest Elementary – 10/21/2020 Butler Junior High School – 10/21/2020

For the eighth week of the monitoring program, the monitor focused on physical distancing during room changes, classroom cleaning, e-learning observations, cleaning between room changes, and disinfectant organization. The monitor additionally followed up with administration and the school nurses at both schools to discuss this week's observations and from previous weeks. The monitor observed both schools adhering to current guidelines and policies for cleaning and disinfecting but not maintaining physical distancing. The monitor observed remote learning successfully occurring at both schools, and students appeared to be engaged and following the lesson plans. The monitor observed remote learning in four (4) different classrooms and found remote learning to occur with no connectivity issues.

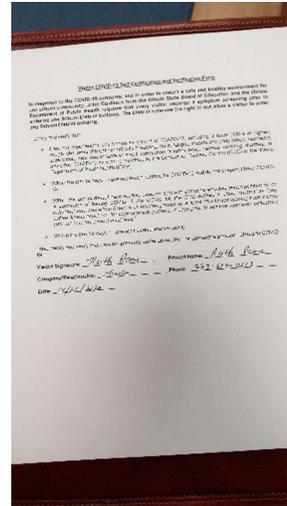
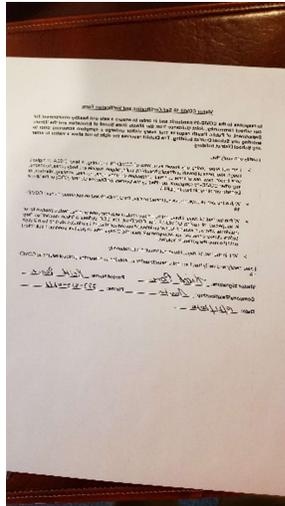
In both schools, physical distancing occurred for the majority of classroom time. The primary time physical distancing was broken was in hallway bottlenecks. In the hallways at the Junior High School, students broke physical distancing during the room changes, and no staff was present to remind students to maintain physical distancing.

The monitor observed staff cleaning the hallways and hard surfaces. The elementary school bathrooms did have hand towels on the floor; however, everything else appeared to be clean and was functional. The monitor selected three (3) bathrooms at random at both the schools, and each had running water, hand sanitizer, and a sanitary method for drying hands.

COVID-19 Self-Certification and Verification Form

Brook Forest Elementary & Butler Junior High School

Both schools requested the monitor sign the "Visitor COVID-19 Self-Certification and Verification Form" as well as a visitor log form. The schools continue to provide the form to all visitors.



Nurse and Isolation Area

Brook Forest Elementary & Butler Junior High School

The monitor spoke to the nurse at both schools. The elementary school nurse informed the monitor that several students had been sent home throughout the week due to illness and one had a fever greater than 100 degrees. The Junior High nurse informed the monitor that two staff members were out due to COVID exposure, but no students were affected. The isolation rooms were empty and clean. The cot for the Junior High is still waiting for delivery of the replacement cot since the original one arrived damaged.

Classroom

Brook Forest Elementary

The monitor observed filled hand sanitizer in the classrooms and the hallways. The monitor checked three (3) hand sanitizers and all were filled and operable and present throughout the school. The students all kept their bookbags by their desks, and everyone remained masked.

The monitor did observe physical distancing broken by students briefly in one classroom where students gathered close together. Also, students broke physical distancing when they exited classrooms to go outside; however, the staff did remind students to physically distant.

Disinfectant and hand sanitizing supplies were observed in all rooms and were full. **Overall, the organization of supplies in the rooms has continued to improve over each week of observation.**

Butler Junior High School

The classrooms appeared clean, and the monitor observed filled hand sanitizer in the classrooms and the hallways. The monitor checked five (5) hand sanitizers and all were filled and operable. Hand sanitizer units were throughout the facility, outside classrooms, stairwells, and in areas of high traffic in the hallways.

Students sat physically distanced in all observed classrooms, and both staff and students remained masked. In one classroom, a student did break physical distancing to speak with a teacher for a brief period.



The monitor found disinfectant and sanitation supplies stored in an organized manner in classrooms.

Outside

Brook Forest Elementary

During the observation time, the monitor observed students exiting classrooms to go outside for recess. During this time, students broke physical distancing when they exited the rooms and outdoors. The students remained masked. **The monitored noticed one staff member came out of the building without the mask, while all other staff members remained masked.**

Remote Learning

Brook Forest Elementary

Remote learning was observed in four (4) classrooms and appeared to be functioning well with no connectivity, audio, or equipment issues.

Butler Junior High School

Remote learning was observed in three (3) classrooms and appeared to be functioning well with no connectivity, audio, or equipment issues.

Hallways

Brook Forest Elementary and Butler Junior High School

At both schools, staff broke physical distancing when in the hallways. In the hallways at Butler Junior High School, students did break physical distancing when changing classrooms, especially in the bottlenecks of the hallways where they intersected.

The monitor saw staff at the elementary school break physical distancing when walking in the hallways and stopping to speak to each other.

After speaking with the principal last week, the lost and found area now has a new policy that items are left there for one (1) week. Staff also continue to clean the lost and found area.

Another notable improvement the monitor noted is the increased signage on the floors indicating the direction of traffic. Additionally, the monitor saw that all damaged floor signs were replaced, and there is now a new policy in place to check floor signage and have it replaced when they become damaged at both schools.

Restroom

Brook Forest Elementary

One (1) of the three (3) restrooms appeared clean; however, all had running water and functional soap and hand sanitizer dispensers. Two restrooms had garbage on the floor.

All water fountains were disabled, except for water bottle fill stations.



Butler Junior High School

The restrooms appeared clean. All restrooms observed had running water, soap, and a way for students to dry their hands.

The water fountains at both schools have new locks installed that cover the fountain heads but leave the water bottle feature available.



Areas for Improvement

Brook Forrest Elementary

- Continued enforcement of physical distancing when students are departing classrooms and outside.
- Staff adherence to mask policies.

Butler Junior High School

- Continued enforcement of physical distancing when changing classrooms.

Brook Forrest Elementary and Butler Junior High School

- Enforcement of physical distancing when students are leaving classrooms.

Recommendations

1. Block middle urinals and sinks in bathrooms, especially once more students begin attending school.
2. Continue to encourage staff to enforce physical distancing at all times, both inside and outside the classroom.
3. Look into options to prevent bottlenecks when students move in the hallways.



Updates

- The Principals at both schools are preparing for increased students on campus by providing education to staff and students.
- The Junior High will be having mock physical distancing trials in the hallways to assist in education when more students return.
- The Elementary school created a video for students that are returning to in-person school.
- The District is investigating the effectiveness and potential placement of UV systems.
- The District is investigating the potential of joining the State program offering antigen and antibody testing for staff members.
- The District continues to review and follow new policies and guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Illinois State Board of Education, Dupage County Local Health Department, and Center for Disease Control. The District updates its policies to ensure alignment.