

# Lawrenceburg Community School Corporation



COVID-19 Return to In-Person Instruction (IPI) Plan  
2021-2022 School Year

## Table of Contents

● Introduction	page 2
● Appendix A - Cleaning and Sanitizing Procedures	page 3
● Appendix B - Health Protocols - Students and Staff	page 4
● Appendix C - Attendance Guidelines - Students	page 8
● Appendix D - Letter from Dearborn County Health Official	page 9

## Introduction

As part of the requirement to receive federal COVID-19 stimulus money, a school corporation must present a Return to In-Person Instruction (IPI) Plan to the board for board approval. The plan must be submitted to the Indiana Department of Education by June 15, 2021.

Per Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 21-15 dated May 25, 2021, "as of July 1, 2021, local school boards and/or the relevant governing bodies of all public and private K-12 educational institutions will be responsible for implementing whatever measures and restrictions deemed necessary and prudent to address the impact and spread of COVID-19 for their buildings, facilities and ground to include transportation."

Based on Dearborn County Department of Health guidance, when there is a prolonged period of moderate to high community spread, the administration may consider continuing traditional school in grades K-5, while providing a hybrid model for grades 6-12 with strict social distancing.

Current CDC guidance recommends face masks or face coverings.

We will continue to offer online learning as an option, but for the 2021-2022 school year it may be through a third party vendor. This option is recommended for parents of children with underlying health conditions, or children of parents who have an underlying health condition, or children of parents who work in essential healthcare facilities and other essential careers.

Just as the school system is flexible, parents will need to be flexible as well. As the COVID-19 is a rapidly changing pandemic, our protocols and procedures will need to change to meet the needs of our students. Stricter guidelines may need to be put in place and implemented if the number of COVID-19 cases rise in our area.

## **Appendix A - Cleaning and Sanitizing Procedures**

Routine cleaning and disinfecting are an important part of reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19. Normal routine cleaning with soap and water alone can reduce risk of exposure and is a necessary step before you disinfect surfaces.

### **Daily Cleaning**

All high traffic touch point surfaces, classroom, common area, and office surfaces (desks, tables, chairs, whiteboards, etc) will be cleaned with an EPA-approved disinfectant. Parents can request a list of disinfectants by contacting Mr. John Ferguson, Director of Maintenance, [john.ferguson@lburg.k12.in.us](mailto:john.ferguson@lburg.k12.in.us).

### **School Clinic**

School nurses will disinfect their general work area after each student using a provided disinfectant wipe, when feasible. Custodians will clean and disinfect all office areas each evening. All office surfaces (desks, tables, chairs, etc) will be cleaned with an EPA-approved disinfectant.

### **Water Fountains**

Students may bring their own filled water bottle to school. Students will take the water bottle home daily for sanitation. Drinking fountains will be unavailable at this time unless it contains a bottle filler station.

### **Hand Sanitizer**

Hand sanitizer will be provided at school entry areas, made available in classrooms and encouraged to be used liberally.

## **Appendix B - Health Protocols- Students and Staff**

### **COVID-19 Symptoms and Student and Staff Requiring Exclusion from School**

Any staff member or student who is fully vaccinated is exempt from exclusion protocols listed below unless he/she obtains a positive test result.

The following are COVID-19-related symptoms:

- Fever (100.4 Degrees Fahrenheit or Greater)
- Chills
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or Body Aches
- Headache
- New Loss of Taste or Smell
- Sore Throat
- Congestion or Runny Nose
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Diarrhea

Information on COVID-19 related symptoms will be shared and updated with students and parents.

Students and staff will be excluded from school if they test positive for COVID-19, have a fever of 100.4 or higher, **or** exhibit an abnormal or severe case of one or more of the other symptoms of COVID-19 if the symptoms are not otherwise explained and documented.

**Students are not permitted at school if they exhibit any of these symptoms not otherwise explained and documented. Parents are required to notify the school immediately.**

**Staff are not permitted to report to school if they exhibit any of these symptoms not otherwise explained and documented. In addition, both students and staff are not permitted at school if a member of the household is COVID-19 positive (unless vaccinated).**

#### **Return to School/Work After Exclusion**

Once a student or employee is excluded from the school environment, they may return if they satisfy the recommendations of the CDC and ISDH. Currently those guidelines are:

- **Untested:** Persons who have not received a test proving or disproving the presence of COVID-19 but experience symptoms may return if the following conditions are met:
  - The individual has not had a fever for at least 72 hours (three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); **and**
  - Other symptoms have improved (for example, when cough or shortness of breath have improved); **and**
  - At least ten (10) calendar days have passed since the symptoms first appeared; **OR**
  - The individual has not had a fever for at least twenty-four (24) hours; **and**
  - A note from the provider stating the individual has an alternate diagnosis and the provider believes it's appropriate for the patient to return to school.

- **Tested Positive- Symptomatic:** Persons who experienced symptoms and have tested positive for COVID-19 may return to school if the following conditions are met:
  - The individual no longer has a fever (without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); **and**
  - Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); **and**
  - At least ten (10) calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- **Tested Negative - Symptomatic:** Persons who experienced symptoms and have tested negative for COVID-19 may return to school if the following conditions are met:
  - The individual has not had a fever for at least 72 hours (three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); **and**
  - Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); **or**
  - A note from the provider stating the individual has an alternate diagnosis and the provider believes it's appropriate for the patient to return to school.
- **Tested Positive- Asymptomatic:** Persons who have not experienced symptoms but have tested positive for COVID-19 may return to school if the following conditions are met:
  - At least ten (10) calendar days have passed since the day of the test.
  - If a person becomes symptomatic, they must follow the "Tested Positive - Symptomatic" protocol from the day they become symptomatic.
- **Student/Staff Close Contact within School:** Persons who have been in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) of someone **within the school setting** (classroom, lunch room, common areas, etc.) with confirmed COVID-19, up to 48 hours prior to being symptomatic or prior to the test date for asymptomatic, **are not** excluded from school. Parents of students and/or staff members will be notified and asked to monitor for symptoms. In addition, students and/or staff members identified as close contact within the school setting should follow quarantine protocols outside of school. ~~Student/staff members are excluded from extracurricular activities. The student/staff member may return to extracurricular activities after at least ten (10) calendar days have passed since the date of close contact (This is per current IHSA guidelines).~~
- **Student/Staff Close Contact Outside of School:** Persons who have been in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) of someone with confirmed COVID-19, up to 48 hours prior to being symptomatic or prior to the test date for asymptomatic, may return to school if the following conditions are met:
  - At least ten (10) calendar days have passed since the day of close contact; **or**
  - At least seven (7) calendar days have passed since the day of the close contact; **and**
  - The student/staff has received a negative COVID-19 test; **and**
  - The test was administered on or after five (5) days of quarantine.
  - If a person becomes symptomatic, they must follow the "Tested Positive - Symptomatic" protocol from the day they become symptomatic.

Per ISDH guidelines, all members of the same household are considered close contacts when any member of the same household is confirmed COVID-19 positive. In addition, during times of moderate or high community spread (as determined by the ISDH

COVID-19 dashboard) school administration may exclude students from school when a member of the same household is symptomatic and awaiting COVID-19 test results.

For more information on the ISDH COVID-19 dashboard, go to <https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2393.htm>.

### **Tested Positive- Impact on School Operations**

With the assistance of Dearborn County Health Department, school personnel or parents/guardians will be notified when their child has had prolonged, close proximity with an individual who tests positive for COVID-19. Healthcare professionals will determine the next steps for potentially exposed students or staff.

### **Student COVID-19 Symptoms Screening**

All parents are required to self-screen students for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to school. Students exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 without being otherwise explained and documented are **prohibited** from coming to school. If they do come to school, they will be sent home immediately. Parents will be responsible for immediate student pick up when a child has been excluded due to COVID-19 symptoms.

### **Staff COVID-19 Symptoms Screening**

All staff members are required to self-screen each day prior to school. Staff members exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 without being otherwise explained and documented are **prohibited** from coming to school.

### **Medical Inquiries**

Federal law typically limits the type of medical inquiries that can be made, but given the nature of the pandemic, more leeway has been given to schools in this circumstance to make additional medical inquiries of students than would otherwise be allowed:

- If a parent tells the school that a student is ill, the school will ask the parent whether the student is exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19.
- If a staff member calls in sick or appears ill, the school will inquire as to whether the staff member is experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.
- If a student or staff member is obviously ill, the school will make additional inquiries and may exclude the student from school.

Even without symptoms, if a student or staff member has recently had contact with a person with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, had someone in their home being tested for COVID-19, or has recently traveled from somewhere considered to be a “hot spot” by the CDC, the school may exclude the student or staff member from the school building and recommend that they self-quarantine for ten (10) calendar days with the support of the Dearborn County Health Department.

### **Clinic Space COVID-19 Symptomatic**

Each school has a designated space separate from the nurse’s clinic where students or employees who are feeling ill are evaluated or wait for pick up. A staff member will supervise students in the waiting area. All waiting students are required to wear a mask, which may be provided by the nurse. Only essential staff assigned to the room may enter. A record will be kept of all persons who entered the room and the room will be disinfected several times throughout the day. Strict social distancing is required and staff must wear appropriate PPE. Students who are ill will be walked out of the building to their parents. Parents will be

responsible for immediate student pick up when a child has been excluded due to COVID-19 symptoms.

### **Clinic Space Non-COVID-19 Related**

Students who do not display symptoms of COVID-19 will be seen and treated in the nurse's clinic. These would include students who are injured during the school day or students with special health care needs such as those with chronic health conditions (i.e. - diabetes or seizures), those requiring medical treatments (i.e. - suctioning, tube feeding, or nebulizers), and those with individual health plans.

### **Immunizations**

Immunization requirements for attendance are expected to be followed per state statutes. The school will work with the local health departments and health systems to provide assistance.

### **Masks**

The Lawrenceburg Community School Corporation feels it is an individual decision as to whether a mask or face covering should be worn for safety purposes.

### **Preventative Measures**

The priority for preventing the spread of disease in the school setting is to insist that sick employees and students stay home. Additionally, students should remain home if someone in the household has COVID-19 symptoms or is being tested for COVID-19.

Handwashing and avoiding touching your face, eyes, nose, or mouth are also important steps a person can take to avoid becoming sick or spreading germs to others. Students are required to wash their hands often and if soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol. The school will provide ample hand sanitizer throughout the building. The school will reinforce healthy habits regarding hand washing during key times and regularly scheduled breaks. Some of these key times include:

- Start of the school day
- Before and after eating
- After using the restroom
- After blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After using shared equipment

Students may bring their own filled water bottle to school. Students will take the water bottle home daily for sanitation. Drinking fountains will be unavailable at this time unless it contains a bottle filler station.

### **Contact Tracing**

Positive COVID-19 cases and close contacts will be traced and reported to the county and state.

## **Appendix C - Attendance Guidelines - Students**

The biggest impact parents can have on preventing the spread of COVID-19 in the school and to limit exposure to others is to keep their child home when exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms. **This cannot be overstated.**

Student attendance policies have been adjusted to allow for extended absences for any student who is COVID-19 positive, exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, or has been in contact with someone COVID-19 positive or who is exhibiting COVID-19 positive. In addition to the existing excused absences, the following excused absences will be used:

- COVID-19 Positive
- COVID-19 Symptoms
- COVID-19 Contact

Which will fall under one of two categories in our student management system:

- Q: Quarantined
- QV: Quarantined Virtual

If your child is sick for any reason, please call the school. The school will ask whether the student is exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19. If a student is obviously ill, the school will make additional inquiries and may exclude the student from school.

Even without symptoms, if a student has recently had contact with a person with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, has someone in their home being tested for COVID-19, or has recently traveled from somewhere considered to be a “hot spot” by the CDC, the school may exclude the student from the school building and recommend that they self-quarantine for ten (10) calendar days.

Please see Appendix B - Health Protocols - Students and Staff for more information on exclusion from school and return to school protocols.

Other attendance issues will be addressed through the Lawrenceburg Community School Corporation attendance policy found in each building's respective student handbook.

*\*COVID-19 related absences are outside of the scope of the attendance policy in the student handbook.*

### **School Visitors**

School visitors will be permitted into the buildings according to policies and guidelines prior to the pandemic.

### **Field Trips**

School-sponsored field trips will resume according to policies and guidelines prior to the pandemic.



## Appendix D - Letter from Dearborn County Health Official



### Dearborn Co. Health Department

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

165 Mary Street  
Lawrenceburg IN, 47025

Phone: (812) 537-8826  
Fax: (812) 537-1852

[www.dearborncounty.org](http://www.dearborncounty.org)

June 4, 2021

To: Karl Galey, Superintendent  
300 Tiger Blvd.  
Lawrenceburg, Indiana 25

I have reviewed the Covid-19 Return to In-Person Instruction (IPI) Plan and find it acceptable. The plan meets all the current state and county health requirement, and has the approval of the Dearborn County Health Officer.

Thank you for continued cooperation and willingness to work with us in this ongoing situation.

Sincerely,

Stephen C. Eliason, M.D.  
Medical Director  
Dearborn County Health Department