



2021-2022

COVID-19 Intervention Plan

The following plan has been developed to facilitate a safe and efficient transition to the new school year during the continued COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout the last year, we have seen the way that in-person instruction serves as a fundamental component of student academic success, but also greatly contributes to their social and emotional development. We have been researching how to best provide instructional services in a safe manner that is responsive to the needs of our students, parents, and staff. The elements of this plan are based on our experiences during the 2020-2021 school year, including known positive cases within the corporation and close contact tracing results. It reflects the input and involvement of the district coronavirus committee and guidance provided by the [Indiana Department of Health](#), [CDC](#), and Governor's Office.

The primary goal is to assist schools and staff with mitigation, response, and recovery procedures associated with COVID-19. We will remain diligent with monitoring county and corporation spread levels, and response procedures for situations that rise to a level of concern will be communicated. The details of this plan are subject to change if we have an increase in positive COVID-19 cases in our buildings or as requirements are conveyed by local or federal mandates. We appreciate your continued patience, feedback, and support as we continue to navigate these circumstances.



DISTRICT PLAN

Updated: August 11, 2021

COVID-19 Intervention Plan Table of Contents

MITIGATION

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Online Academics | 2 |
| 2. Daily Screenings | 2 |
| 3. Masks | 2 |
| 4. Social Distancing | 2 |
| 5. Vaccinations | 2 |
| 6. Cleaning and Sanitation | 3 |
| 7. Personal Health Habits | 3 |
| 8. Transportation | 3 |
| 9. Personal Protection Equipment | 3 |
| 10. Student Nutrition | 3 |
| 11. Visitors | 4 |
| 12. School Assemblies and Field Trips | 4 |
| 13. Extracurricular Activities/Events | 4 |

RESPONSE

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Monitoring of County and District <i>active</i> COVID-19 Cases | 4 |
| 2. Intervention | 4 |
| 3. District Coronavirus Committee | 4 |
| 4. Cleaning | 5 |
| 5. Close Contacts and Quarantine | 5 |

RECOVERY

| | |
|--|---|
| 1. Distance Learning | 5 |
| 2. COVID-19 Testing | 6 |
| 3. Vaccinations | 6 |
| 4. Consultation | 6 |
| 5. Reporting | 6 |
| 6. Representation | 6 |

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Mitigation

1. Online Academies

LPCSC will offer online academies to lower classroom sizes and meet the needs of staff and students who are more comfortable teaching and learning remotely.

2. Daily Screening

Parents, students, and staff are expected to self-screen daily. If one or more of the following symptoms exist, that cannot be explained due to a known health condition, they should not report to school:

- i) A Fever of 100.4° F (or greater) and/or Chills
- ii) Cough or Shortness of Breath
- iii) Sore Throat
- iv) Muscle Pain or Headache (especially new onset of severe headache)
- v) New Loss of Taste or Smell

3. Masks

- Masks will be recommended, not required, while indoors on school grounds and in LPCSC facilities. Students, staff, and visitors may choose to wear a mask during the day and for school events. Unless future mandates are passed regarding face-coverings, no one will be forced to wear a mask.
- Masks must be worn on school buses to comply with the current federal transportation mandate.

4. Social Distancing

- Distances of three feet will be arranged in classrooms and other spaces where possible. The three-foot rule continues to be the distance used to determine close contact during contact tracing.
- Classroom Seating and Room Configuration will be determined with a three-foot rule in mind and, where possible, students facing the same direction.

5. Vaccinations

- The decision to receive a vaccination for COVID-19 remains a personal choice, and will NOT be required for staff and/or students.
- Announcements and communications concerning local opportunities for vaccinations will be made for students, staff, and parents.

- Please keep in mind that immunization guidelines set forth by the Indiana State Department of Health require up-to-date immunizations—not including COVID-19—upon the first day of school.

6. Cleaning & Sanitation

- a) Facilities will be cleaned daily by trained staff.
- b) Staff will use approved COVID-19 cleaning supplies to disinfect.
- c) When possible, students will not share equipment or supplies.
- d) High-touch surfaces will be disinfected regularly.
- e) Water stations and drinking fountains will be operational and available to students and staff.
- f) HVAC improvements are scheduled to begin for a number of LPCSC buildings.

7. Personal Health Habits

We know now more than ever the importance of good hygiene and a healthy routine. Regular hand washing and avoiding touching of the face, eyes, nose, and mouth are important measures to help mitigate the spread of germs. Sanitizing stations will be available in all LPCSC facilities. Additionally, getting restful sleep, regular exercise, and maintaining a healthy diet can aid in a productive immune system.

8. Transportation

- All buses will be cleaned and/or sanitized at the conclusion of each day.
- Bus Air Quality improvements, via filtering systems, will be implemented this year.
- All bus riders will follow the mask requirements that coincide with the current federal mandate.

9. Personal Protection Equipment

Schools and facilities in the corporation will have an inventory of masks, gloves, and other items available for students and staff upon request.

10. Student Nutrition (Breakfast and Lunch)

- Lunchrooms will be spaced to maintain a distance of three feet as much as possible.
- Breakfast will be served in the classrooms, where feasible, to minimize close contact.
- Our intent is to return to a full-service menu, while safely serving our students.

11. Visitors

Visitors, mentors, and volunteers who have passed the requisite background check, will be health screened and allowed in the buildings on an approved basis.

12. School Assemblies and Field Trips

School assemblies and field trips are going to resume on an approved basis where safety protocols can be enforced.

13. Extracurricular Activities/Events

Social distancing, disinfection of facilities and equipment, and sanitizing stations will be included in planning efforts for all extracurricular activities and events.

Response

1. Monitoring of County and District *active* COVID-19 Cases

- a. Active cases and the spread of COVID-19 will be monitored.
- b. Consultation will occur with the La Porte County Health Department if cases rise to a level of concern for a particular classroom, bus, school, etc.
- c. Data regarding cases will be shared on the LPCSC website.
- d. Please continue to advise your school if your child receives a positive test and must quarantine.

2. Intervention

In the event that positive cases rise to a level of concern within the corporation, building/school specific measures will be taken. There will not be a prescribed color-coded programming system tied to the countywide COVID-19 spread levels. However, examples of possible interventions might include: required mask wearing, virtual instruction—either by classroom or school wide—prepackaged meals, lunchroom restrictions, etc. These interventions will be announced on an as-needed basis.

3. District Coronavirus Committee

Representatives from various schools, departments, as well as parents will continue to meet

regularly throughout the year to review data, discuss recent guidance, and make amendments to current COVID-19 plans.

4. Cleaning

Classrooms, schools, buses, and facilities known to be associated with positive cases will be thoroughly cleaned using standards recommended by the CDC.

5. Close Contacts and Quarantine

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, we will continue to contact trace. The methods applied to close contact tracing are determined by the most recent guidance from the Indiana Health Department. Currently, the ruling is that a close contact would be someone who was within six feet of a positive case for at least 15 minutes.

Close contacts will need to quarantine according to the following guidelines:

- Individuals tested on or after day 5 and receive a negative result may return after **Day 7**.
- Individuals who have NOT tested and are NOT experiencing symptoms may return after **Day 10**.
- Individuals who have NOT tested and are experiencing symptoms may return after **Day 14** provided that symptoms have improved and fever has abated for 24 hours without medication.

According to the latest [Executive Order](#) from Governor Holcomb and the most recent [CDC guidance](#), fully vaccinated individuals do not have to quarantine if they are identified as a close contact and are NOT showing [symptoms](#). However, it is recommended that even the fully vaccinated not experiencing symptoms should get tested 3-5 days after their exposure and wear a mask in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative. **If you are fully vaccinated and test positive, you should isolate for 10 days.**

Recovery

1. Distance Learning

Distance learning opportunities will be provided for students absent due to COVID-19 exposure.

2. COVID-19 Testing

Dates, times, and locations for testing by the health department will be communicated to students, parents, and staff. Here is a [list of COVID-19 testing sites](#) compiled by the Healthcare Foundation of La Porte.

3. Vaccinations

- Dates, times, and locations for vaccinations (currently approved for ages 12 and up) by the health department will be communicated to students, parents, and staff.

4. Consultation

LPCSC administration will be consulting with local health department officials throughout the school year in an effort to:

- Stay up-to-date on the most recent guidance from the [Indiana Department of Health](#), [CDC](#), and Governor's Office.
- Identify potentially concerning spikes in case numbers across the county as well as within the corporation.

5. Reporting

- LPCSC will continue reporting positive cases to the Indiana Health Department.
- LPCSC will post positive cases each week on the [corporation website](#).

6. Representation

LPCSC Administration will be represented at county-wide COVID-19 meetings for local officials.