

North Lawrence Community School Corporation Back to School Plan 2021-2022

NLCS will implement the following updated guidelines addressing the local impact and spread of COVID-19 effective August 10, 2021. *Please note that changes to this guidance may occur as a result of future guidance and requirements from the Governor, Indiana State Department of Health, and Lawrence County Health Department.*

School Operations

- All NLCS buildings will be in session for in-person instruction 5 days per week.
- Remote learning will be available to students during quarantine.
- During remote learning, classroom or content area teachers will provide guidance for how students will access learning resources.
- Students will be responsible for completing all assignments and assessments assigned by the teacher during remote learning.
- Students needing technical support should contact studentsupport@nlcs.k12.in.us. Parents needing assistance please contact your child's school.
- Necessary accommodations will be made for school assemblies and events.

Prevention Practices

- Students/staff should self-assess for COVID-19 symptoms daily and STAY HOME if you are sick.
- Signage is posted in hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district-specific protocols.
- Wash hands frequently with hand soap and/or hand sanitizer
- Cover coughs
- Water fountains will be used for bottle fill only. Students should bring a reusable water bottle.
- School facilities will be cleaned using routine protocols. Disinfectant and paper products will be available in each classroom.
- Hand sanitizer will be readily available throughout each facility.

Masks

- Masks are recommended for all students/staff.
- NLCS will follow IDOE attendance guidelines for student absence due to illness and monitor COVID-19 guidance and recommendations

Teaching and Learning

- Desks will be separated by 3 feet or to the extent possible and be facing one direction.
- Assigned seating will be used as needed in each classroom.
- Additional instructional support will be provided to each student who is academically and socially/emotionally at-risk.

Transportation

- Buses will be cleaned and sanitized.
- Implement standard operating procedures.
- The use of a face-covering will be required on school buses.
- Buses will be aired out when not in use.

Food Services

- Students wash/sanitize hands before and after meal service.
- Cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day.
- Other necessary accommodations will be made as needed.

Health Clinic

- The health clinic will be used to evaluate and assess ill students. Students displaying COVID-19 symptoms will be isolated from other clinic patients.
- All ill students/staff presenting with COVID-19 symptoms will be required to wear a face-covering and maintain 6-feet apart.

COVID-19 Vaccination

- Currently, COVID-19 vaccinations are not part of the required immunizations for school attendance.
- Students/staff who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are not required to quarantine as long as they remain symptom-free. Information regarding vaccination status will not be officially collected. Proof of vaccination status is required.

Illness

- Anyone exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms during school will be assessed by the school nurse/health aides/administration.
- School nurses will use *nurse medical judgment* to communicate the next steps to parents.

- Strict social distancing (6 ft.) will be required for ill students/staff.
- Contact your school nurse with any questions regarding student illness.

School Exclusion and Return

- State statute gives public school districts the authority to exclude students who have a contagious disease such as COVID-19 or are liable to transmit it after exposure (IC 20-34-3-9). In addition, the local health department has the authority to exclude students from school and may order students and others to isolate or quarantine (IC 16-41-9-1.6).

NLCS will monitor CDC guidelines pertaining to students/staff illness, exclusion, and quarantine.

Students/staff exhibiting fever, 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, or diarrhea will be excluded from school attendance until one of the following:

- Documentation of an alternative diagnosis (Not COVID-19) is acquired from a healthcare provider and symptoms have improved.

Be fever free for 24 hours without the use of any medication

Diarrhea - be 24 hours free from diarrhea

Vomiting - be 24 hours free from vomiting

OR

- Documentation of a negative COVID-19 test is provided.

Students/staff testing positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate for 10 calendar days without a fever for 24 hours and improvement of symptoms starting from the onset of symptoms or date of the positive COVID-19 test draw.

Close Contacts

A close contact is anyone not wearing a mask within 6 feet of a confirmed positive COVID-19 person for 15 minutes or more. These individuals are required to quarantine per the CDC/ISDH.

- Students/staff identified as a close contact to a confirmed positive COVID-19 person will be required to quarantine.
- Close contacts who are unvaccinated have the following options for quarantine:
 - 1.) Asymptomatic close contact may return after 10 calendar days of quarantine.
 - 2.) Asymptomatic close contact may return on day 7 with a negative PCR test that was obtained on day 5.
 - For children who have a positive household member that cannot isolate away from them, the child's quarantine days are not counted until the positive person has completed their isolation. For example, if the positive

person's last day of isolation is 8/5/21, the child's day 1 of quarantine would be 8/6/21. Then the child would proceed with the above quarantine options. This is due to the fact that the parent is presumed contagious through day 7 of isolation, so day 7 would be considered the student's last exposure.

3.) Symptomatic close contacts must quarantine for 7 days from the start of symptoms.

Students/staff who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are not required to quarantine as long as they remain symptom-free. We require that they wear masks for 7 days after exposure. Information regarding vaccination status will not be officially collected. Proof of vaccination status is required.

- Students/staff who have documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the past three months will not be required to quarantine as long as they remain symptom-free and wear a mask for 7 days after exposure.
- Students/staff who show proof of antibodies for COVID-19 through lab testing are not required to quarantine as long as they remain symptom-free and wear a mask for 7 days after exposure.