

Health & Safety Information Fall 2021

Schoolwide health starts each day with you! Our goal is to help keep our students and staff healthy in order to continue in-person instruction throughout the school year. This will only be accomplished with everyone working together once again to limit exposure to the coronavirus. Even if the virus is shown to have less impact on children, it takes nearly 100 adults each day working to provide an education, from bus drivers to teachers to daycare staff. If we are unable to staff each of those jobs, we will be unable to have in-person instruction. Please take the time to follow the guidelines and communicate with the school if any issues arise.

Our staff will be following the same daily health screenings for themselves prior to beginning their work day. Again, our hope is to keep the classrooms as healthy and safe as possible, so making sure to do the health screening every day and communicating with school is of paramount importance.

1. Please screen your child and/or yourself daily for the following symptoms:
 - a. If you have **ONE** of the following:
 - i. New Cough
 - ii. Shortness of Breath
 - iii. Difficulty Breathing
 - iv. Loss of Taste/Smell
 - b. If you have **TWO** of the following:
 - i. Fever
 - ii. Chills
 - iii. Muscle Pain
 - iv. Headache
 - v. Sore Throat
 - vi. Nausea
 - vii. Diarrhea
 - c. If any of the above criteria are met please **stay home** and follow the quarantine guidelines. Please notify the office immediately of any symptoms. Again, our school year depends on honesty and trust among all of us.

2. Masks are strongly encouraged for all students, staff, and visitors. Especially in our younger age groups that do not have the opportunity to be vaccinated, masks are the primary mitigation measure that is available. We're hopeful that families with children under the age of 12 will have their students mask up for the school day. The best chance we have to keep kids in school every day this year is for students to wear masks.

If you have questions about masking, please contact Mr. Schultz at mattschultz@lanesboroschools.com. As the virus situation continues to change, these guidelines may change as well. Another factor will be the rate at which vaccinations become available to different age groups.

At this time we will be using a 5% threshold to determine mask requirements. If we have 5% of our K-6 students that are absent from school due to COVID-like or flu-like symptoms we would then require all students/staff K-6 to wear masks in the classroom. This is the most common metric used by other school districts in our area and will allow us to make decisions based on actual data. This may change throughout the school year depending on how the local population is impacted by COVID.

Masks are required on all public transportation which includes School Buses. Anyone riding a bus, whether to/from school each day or to a school event, is required to wear a mask. Please make sure the student has their mask with them prior to getting to their bus stop each morning.

3. Precautions we are taking:

- a. Daily home screening of students/staff - STAY HOME IF SICK
- b. Masks highly recommended for students and staff, face shields where appropriate
- c. Social distancing to the extent possible
- d. Limiting group gatherings
- e. Routine hand washing and sanitizing
- f. Enhanced cleaning throughout the day following the CDC guidelines
- g. Using outdoor spaces where appropriate
- h. Suspending handbook rules for student sick days (Stay Home if Sick!)
- i. Reducing visitors to the classrooms during the school day
- j. Designated waiting area for students to be picked up during the day if they develop symptoms
- k. Students should have their own water bottles with them each day

4. Quarantine Procedures:

- a. Please be sure to communicate with the office in the event that your child needs to stay home due to illness. Julie Schreiber will once again be our Covid Coordinator. We want to make sure we are keeping the facility as safe as possible and we want to be sure to deliver the best education resources that we can.
- b. A student that develops covid-like symptoms or tests positive should continue to follow the recommended isolation procedures.
 - i. Stay home for 10 days from the onset of symptoms or from the date of the positive test if no symptoms are reported.
 - ii. The classroom teacher will connect with the student remotely to ensure they have access to any classroom work they may miss.
- c. If a student tests positive for covid, the families of students that are considered close contacts will be notified. Below are the guidelines for determining who may be a considered a close contact:

- i. If there is no mask worn, anyone within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes of a student that tests positive would be considered a close contact.
- ii. If masks are worn, anyone within 3 feet for more than 15 minutes of a student that tests positive would be considered a close contact.
- iii. According to guidelines anyone that has completed their covid vaccination series would not be considered a close contact.
- iv. On a bus or in a van, a student that is seated in the same seat as a student that has tested positive will be considered a close contact.
- v. In the event your child is determined to be a close contact, you should follow a five day quarantine procedure. If after five days from the determination of being a close contact the student has not developed any symptoms, they may return to school on day six. Again, Julie Schreiber in her role as Covid Coordinator will work with families to make the process as seamless as possible.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Matt Schultz (mattschultz@lanesboroschools.com) or Julie Schreiber (julieschreiber@lanesboroschools.com) or call 507-467-2229.