

LAWRENCE COUNTY CUSD #20
RETURN TO LEARNING PLAN
AUGUST 2021

On July 9, 2021 the Center for Disease Control (CDC) released their COVID-19 Prevention School Guidance for the 2021-22 school year. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) adopted these same school guidelines. In August 2021, the CUSD #20 Board of Education approved a reopening plan for our schools for the 2021-22 school year in accordance with these guidelines. The plan was altered in February of 2022, due to the decrease in the number of Covid cases in the school, community, and state.

As we prepare for the reopening of the 2022-23 school year, CUSD #20 is releasing our "Return to Learning Plan." This plan was developed to address issues related to Covid and the on-going battle to move past this disease. This plan is required by the Illinois State Board of Education for districts who are receiving the latest rounds of Covid grant money.

Please be aware that we will continue to consult with the Lawrence County Department of Health, the IDPH, and the CDC throughout the year. We will implement changes if they become necessary as we progress throughout the year. Any changes made will be announced and enforced by the administration and staff of CUSD #20.

Based on the recommendations from the CDC and IDPH, the following guidelines will be implemented by CUSD #20 for the 2022-23 school year: These guidelines will be for each of the school buildings.

MASKS: CUSD #20 will leave that decision to the discretion of the parent. Any student who would like to wear a mask will be allowed to do so but they are NOT required.

SOCIAL DISTANCING: Guidelines are for 3 feet of physical distance between students, but not if this would be a barrier to in-person learning. We will utilize classroom and lunchroom space to the best of our ability to allow as much distance as possible between students.

HANDWASHING: We will continue to have hand sanitizers available throughout the building and encourage staff and students to wash their hands frequently during the school day.

CLEANING OF BUILDING: We will continue to employ extra custodians to provide more daily cleaning of the classrooms and buildings in an effort to prevent the spread of COVID germs.

QUARANTINE FOR POSITIVE TEST: Students who test positive for Covid, will be excluded from school for a total of five (5) calendar days. Parents will be responsible for determining if the Covid symptoms still exist in their child and will be asked to keep them at home beyond the required five days.

QUARANTINE FOR CLOSE CONTACT: The school will NOT be doing any contract tracing of students who test positive for Covid, however, we will follow the guidelines and notify the Public Health Department of any positive cases brought to our attention.

DIAGNOSTIC AND SCREENING TEST: At this time, the Lawrence County Health Department continues to test for Covid. Positive results are reported to the school for our information as well.

VACCINATIONS: Last year, the Health Department used our school facilities to administer Covid vaccines to our staff as well as to individuals in the community. If a similar vaccination event is

scheduled for this year, we will announce the information to our staff, students as well as the community.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS: CUSD #20 will continue to follow the rules and regulations established by the CDC to provide reasonable accommodations for any special needs students who are quarantined by Covid.

STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS: We will continue to consult with the local public health department to determine community levels and appropriate prevention strategies throughout the upcoming school year.

CONTINUITY OF SERVICES: As we have done throughout this pandemic, we will continue to provide necessary services to address academic, social, emotional, mental health, and other needs of all individuals associated with CUSD #20.

BUS ISSUES: We will run our buses as we were pre-Covid, for example, there will not be a one-person to a seat rule nor will a mask be required on the bus. However, all students will have assigned seats on the bus.

LOCKERS AND LOCKER ROOMS: Students at Parkview and LHS will be assigned lockers in the classroom hallways as well as in the PE locker rooms. Students will dress for physical education class with the required PE uniform.

As stated earlier, these guidelines are subject to change. CUSD #20 reserves the right to make modifications to this plan. The CUSD #20 Board of Education may make temporary changes in an emergency situation, but any long term change will require a public school board meeting to discuss the issue and vote to approve a new plan.

Public comment on this plan is welcome and encouraged. Individuals who would like to address the Board of Education, may do so at the public monthly board meeting. Individuals may also contact Superintendent Doug Daugherty via phone (943-2326) or email ddaugherty@cusd20.net.