

Lockport City School District
COVID-19 Expansion of Hybrid In-Person Instructional Model Plan
Amendment to July 2020 Reopening Plan
Grades PreK-4
April 2021

School Facilities for Four Day In-Person Instruction

Effective Monday, May 3, 2021, the following Prek-grade 4 schools will operate in a four day in-person instructional model:

- John Pound Early Childhood Center
- Anna Merritt Elementary School
- Charles Upson Elementary School
- George Southard Elementary School
- Roy B. Kelley Elementary School

The Prek-grade 4 schools will continue to operate with the same start and end times. Students will attend school four days a week for in-person instruction on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Remote Wednesdays will remain in the schedule and be used for synchronous and asynchronous learning. Some students will remain in the full remote model.

Students in grades 5-12 (LHS, LHSWCC, NPJHS, and EBIS) will continue in the two day in-person hybrid instructional model with a continuation also of the 100% remote learning instructional model option.

Six feet of distance is required between adults and between students and adults.

Six feet of distance is required when eating meals or snacks, or drinking, or other times when masks must be removed.

Individuals participating in activities that require projecting the voice or playing a woodwind instrument must be six feet apart and there must be six feet of distance between the performers and the audience during performances and concerts, or during aerobic activity resulting in heavy breathing (participating in physical education classes).

Six feet of physical distance must be maintained in common areas and outside of classrooms where possible.

The NYSDOH recognizes that certain scenarios may prevent physical distancing from occurring, such as providing essential classroom instruction, medical care, or student comfort/support. This contact must be minimized to the greatest extent possible.

CDC provides recommendations for physical distancing and cohorting for elementary, middle, and high schools at each level of transmission. These recommendations are summarized below and are required to be adhered to when implementing physical distancing of less than six (6) feet in classrooms.

- In counties with low and moderate risk of transmission, elementary, middle, and high schools can maintain physical distancing of at least three (3) feet between students in classrooms.
- In counties with substantial risk of transmission, elementary, middle, and high schools can maintain physical distancing of at least three (3) feet between students in classrooms and cohorting is recommended when possible.
- In counties with high risk of transmission, elementary schools can maintain physical distancing of at least three (3) feet between students in classrooms and cohorting is recommended when possible. However, in middle and high schools three feet between students in classrooms is recommended only when schools can use cohorting. When schools cannot maintain cohorting, middle and high schools must maintain physical distancing of at least six feet between students in classrooms.

Monitoring of Health Conditions

Infection rates and metrics will continue to be closely monitored.

All staff and visitors will continue to complete daily health screening surveys.

Parents should continue to evaluate their children's health condition before sending them to school.

Students, staff, and visitors will participate in temperature screening daily.

Rapid COVID testing will continue to be available for staff.

The District is prepared to offer rapid COVID testing to students with parent's consent.

The District will continue consultation with the Niagara County Department of Health (NCDOH) and the district's school physician.

Containment of Potential Transmission of the Virus

Rooms in schools remain designated for short term isolation of suspected infected persons.

Outdoor spaces will be utilized as often as possible.

The District will follow contact tracing and quarantining protocols, including being 6 feet within an infected person for 10 consecutive minutes or longer.

School nurses will continue to monitor student and staff symptoms and recommend testing or evaluation by a medical professional when needed.

Meetings and training sessions will continue to be conducted virtually.

Wearing masks in school and on busses will continue.

Frequent hand washing and respiratory etiquette will continue to be practiced.

The district will continue to submit daily numbers to the New York State COVID-19 Report Card.

The District will provide employees with vaccination opportunities as they become known to the district through the local health department or the local hospital.

The District will adhere to hygiene, cleaning, and disinfection guidelines set forth by the DOH and CDC.

The District will support the local health department in contact tracing efforts using the protocols and tools provided through the NYS Contact Tracing Program.

One of the three following criteria must be met before the COVID positive student/staff can return to school:

- A note from the student/staff's medical care provider is provided with an alternative diagnosis (known chronic condition or a laboratory confirmed acute illness) and COVID-19 is not suspected, OR
- The result of a negative diagnostic COVID-19 test is provided & the individual is fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medication, OR
- There have been at least ten days since the onset of COVID-19 symptoms and the symptoms are improving and the individual is fever free for 72 hours without the use of fever reducing medication.

Closure of School Facilities and In-Person Instruction

The District will consult with the Niagara County Department of Health to review factors involved when contact tracing such as physical distance, duration, proximity of exposure, and other factors that could elevate risk. Although physical distancing has changed, close contact has not changed and is defined as being within 6 feet for more than 10 minutes of an infected person. With the decrease in physical distancing to three feet, the number of people required to quarantine could increase. The typical quarantine period is 10 days. It is possible that all students in a classroom could be considered as close contacts for quarantine. If an entire class is identified as quarantined, there could be a shift to remote instruction for the class.

If COVID-19 cases develop, districts/schools may consider restricting access within school facilities and across school grounds, particularly in affected areas to avoid full school closures. In such instances, districts/schools may choose to temporarily move classes where an individual

has tested positive for COVID-19 to remote/virtual format until all contacts can be identified, notified, tested, and cleared.

The district will notify the local health department upon being informed of any positive COVID-19 diagnostic test result by an individual within school facilities or on school grounds. The district will cooperate with the local health department in tracing all contacts of the individual along with isolation and quarantine efforts. Confidentiality must be maintained as required by federal and state law and regulations.

Vaccination, Previous COVID Infection

In New York State, P-12 Teachers and staff have been eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine since January 11, 2021. Asymptomatic fully vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine if exposed to COVID-19. The Department of Health must officially clear even fully vaccinated individuals to be at work or school. A person who received the full vaccine series of an FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine and is (1) exposed to an individual who has tested COVID-19 positive or (2) traveled to a U.S. state other than those contiguous to New York and remains asymptomatic will not have to quarantine under the criteria below but must be officially released from quarantine by the Department of Health. Additionally, a person who completed 10 days of isolation for a COVID-19 infection and remains asymptomatic will not have to quarantine under the criteria below.

Quarantine Guidance for Fully Vaccinated Persons:

Fully vaccinated persons exposed to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 OR who traveled to a U.S. state other than those contiguous to New York are not required to quarantine if they meet all of the following criteria:

- Fully vaccinated (i.e., ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine), AND
- Within 90 days of the receipt of the last dose in the vaccination series AND
- Remains asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure or vaccination series completion.

These individuals must still be cleared by the Department of Health.

Asymptomatic individuals who have recovered from laboratory confirmed COVID-19 infection during the previous 3 months do not need to be quarantined if exposed to COVID-19.

Please help to keep all people safer and the elementary schools operating in a four day in-person instructional model by:

Wearing a mask

Practicing physical distancing

Washing your hands frequently
Monitoring your health regularly
Avoiding congregate settings
Transporting your children to and from school when possible
Taking your children's temperatures daily before they leave for school in the morning
Keeping your children home if there has been any potential exposure to the virus
Keeping your children home if they are not feeling well

Thank you to the entire Lockport City School District learning community for their efforts, endurance, cooperation, and patience as we continue to manage the COVID-19 pandemic.

***Lockport City School District
COVID-19 Expansion of Hybrid In-Person Instructional Model Plan
Amendment to July 2020 Reopening Plan
For Grades 5-12
May 2021***

Effective Monday, May 24, 2021, students in grades 5-12 (EBIS, NPJHS, LHSW, and LHS) will operate in a four day in-person instructional model

The 5-12 schools will continue to operate with the same start and end times. Students will attend school four days a week for in-person instruction on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Remote Wednesdays will remain in the schedule and be used for synchronous and asynchronous learning. Some students will remain in the full remote model.

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If COVID-19 cases develop, districts/schools may consider restricting access within school facilities and across school grounds, particularly in affected areas to avoid full school closures.

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Lockport City School District

Amendment to July 2020 School Reopening Plan

Updated Mask Guidance

June 10, 2021

On Monday, June 7, 2021, Governor Cuomo announced updated mask guidance for schools. There will be no change with indoor mask requirements promulgated by the state. The state has, however, amended guidance regarding outdoor activity. At this time, masks are still required to be worn by students, staff members, and visitors while in school.

Updated NYSDOH Guidance Excerpts

Face Masks

Effective June 7, 2021, face masks are not required to be worn outdoors on school grounds, including during outdoor school sports. No student, staff member, or visitor may be prevented from wearing an acceptable face mask voluntarily on school grounds.

Extracurriculars

Effective June 7, 2021, face masks are not required to be worn outdoors on school grounds, including during outdoor school sports.

The Lockport City School District will follow this updated guidance effective Thursday, June 10, 2021. All indoor mask protocols remain in effect until amended guidance is issued by the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH).

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we continue to manage the COVID-19 pandemic. Stay safe and be well.