

Leesville R-IX Re-entry Plan 2020-2021

The district's plan is a face-to-face return to school on August 27 utilizing guidelines set forth by the Henry County Public Health Center and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). On the first day of school and throughout the first two weeks, these new safety procedures will be taught and practiced in all of our classrooms. Parental support and reinforcement of these new measures will be critical in providing the safest possible environment for students. The following procedures are what we believe, at this time, to be best practices and applicable based on current recommendations.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL

Please be patient with district employees as they work to implement new protocols. Arrival and dismissal procedures may initially take more time than in previous years. Your understanding is appreciated. Doors will not open until 7:40 and buses will not dismiss students until 7:40. Temperatures will be taken upon entering the building. Students will report directly to their class/homeroom after temperature checks. School dismissal protocols will be staggered (buses first, followed by car riders) and supervised by school staff to allow for proper social distancing.

Minimizing Risk

- **Screening begins in the home.** Parents must screen students and keep your student home if, in the past 14 days, the student has experienced:
 - ❖ A fever (100 degrees or higher) or a sense of having a fever
 - ❖ Chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, headache
 - ❖ New loss of smell or taste, new muscle aches
 - ❖ Or if your student or a close contact has been diagnosed or presumptively diagnosed with COVID-19
- Students will be taught and reminded of proper hand washing as well as cough and sneeze etiquette.
- Class restroom break schedules will be coordinated to avoid multiple classes of students in or near the restrooms at one time.
- Students will need a water bottle to fill at the water bottle filling station. Bottles will need to be taken home regularly to be cleaned.

- Students will have assigned seats in any area they are seated.
- Students will continue to participate in outdoor recess as grade level groups. All students will be expected to sanitize their hands just prior and wash hands just after participating in recess.
- The risk of transmitting the virus outdoors is much lower, so teachers may also consider using outdoor learning spaces more often.
- The sharing of common instructional materials by students will be discouraged.
- Meals
 - ❖ Breakfast will be grab -n-go and eaten in the classrooms.
 - ❖ Lunch options may include eating in classrooms, socially distancing in the cafeteria, or a combination of both.
- ❖ Physical Education:
 - Classes will engage in outdoor activities as much as possible.
 - Activities will be used which limit close contact with others.
 - Students will be provided with their own equipment for class, when possible, and equipment will be regularly disinfected.
 - Handwashing before and after physical activity will be expected.
- Until further notice, the district will not admit visitors into the building unless approved by the administration. A staff member will walk student to the east door for pick-up if;
 - ❖ there is a health related issue
 - ❖ there is doctor's appointment or early pick up

Student Transportation

We HIGHLY encourage parents to transport their children to school. This is the area where social distancing may be the most difficult. Efforts will be made to minimize risk.

Masks on Buses:

- Because we cannot social distance adequately on all school buses, ALL students will be required to wear masks at all times to protect themselves and each other.

Before Boarding:

- Parents should screen their children in the morning and keep their child(ren) home if they have any of these symptoms or concerns.
 - ❖ A fever (100 degrees or higher) or a sense of having a fever (you don't feel well)
 - ❖ Chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, headache
 - ❖ New loss of smell or taste, new muscle aches

❖ If you or a close contact has been diagnosed or presumptively diagnosed with COVID-19

On the Bus:

- Drivers will sanitize the bus after both the morning and evening routes using an approved disinfectant.
- Students will be required to wear masks while riding the bus.
- The front row may or may not be used at the discretion of the administration or bus driver.
- Students will be assigned seating for their bus rides.
- Members of the same household will sit together in the same seat.
- To limit student-to-student contact, students will enter the bus and fill seats from back to front. At school or stops, students will off-load from front to back.
- Drivers will not work if they are sick.

Health Protocols

➤ **Screening begins in the home.** Parents must screen students and keep your student home if, in the past 14 days, the student has experienced:

- ❖ A fever (100 degrees or higher) or a sense of having a fever
- ❖ Chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, headache
- ❖ New loss of smell or taste, new muscle aches
- ❖ Or if your student or a close contact has been diagnosed or presumptively diagnosed with COVID-19

➤ Masks/face coverings

- ❖ Students and faculty have the option of wearing protective masks. (see bus guidelines for exception)
- ❖ Homemade masks are acceptable. They must meet school dress code guidelines.
- ❖ Masks must be in clean, sanitary condition.
- ❖ Students may not share masks.

➤ Cleaning and disinfecting

During school hours, staff will thoroughly sanitize high touch surfaces throughout the building on an ongoing rotation throughout the day, including bathrooms, water bottle fill stations, doorknobs, entrance/exit handles, handrails, walls, etc. Cleaning and disinfecting will

follow Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidance found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>

ILLNESS PROTOCOL

As of August 2020 and until further notice the following policy is in place in addition to the guidelines in the current Parent/Staff Handbooks:

1. Students and staff will be excluded from school if they test positive for COVID-19 or are directly exposed to someone (Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.) who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last **14 days**.* **Return to school will be based on the guidance of the CDC Guidelines and the Henry County Health Department.**
2. Students and staff will be excluded from school if they exhibit one or more of the following:
 - a. A **fever** of 100* F or greater. Staff and students must be symptom free without fever medication for 72 hours before returning. This means they will be absent at least the following 3 days.
 - b. If your child has **vomiting or diarrhea** they must be absent for 48 hours. This means they will be absent at least the following 2 days.
3. OR ANY COMBINATION OF THE FOLLOWING:
 - c. Cough
 - d. Headache
 - e. Muscle or body aches
 - f. Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea
 - g. New loss of taste or smell
 - h. New runny nose or congestion
 - i. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - j. Sore throat
 - k. Fatigue

*Students with symptoms should not attend school and parents should consult their healthcare provider and follow CDC considerations regarding their return to school. For students who are diagnosed with COVID-19, either by a laboratory test or based on their symptoms, return to school is permissible when the student is at least 10 days from symptom onset, has had three days with no fever and has improved symptoms. Return to school for children with an alternate diagnosis is at the discretion of their healthcare provider and/or the school nurse. Children with a known close contact with COVID-19 (or an adult with symptoms compatible with COVID-19) should stay home for 14 days from their last contact and until return to school is approved by the local health department in accordance with the CDC guidance. Click here to review the CDC guidance.

If your child presents with any of the above symptoms, parents will be called immediately and will be expected to pick up their child. Please do not send your child to school if they are sick. **An illness for one child could impact the entire district. If your child will be absent for any reason please call the office 660-477-3406**

Continuity of Operations Actions

Leesville R-IX will regularly update the plan for the essential operations of academic program and staff expectations if COVID-19 further affects our school.