

# Laurel County Schools

## Safety Plan/Guidelines

### Reopening In-Person

#### 2020-21



### Laurel County Schools Safety Expectations for In-Person Classes

**In-Person School Opening Date:** September 3, 2020

We are excited to re-open school for in-person classes! Our administrators, teachers, and staff have been working throughout the summer in preparing for the first day of in-person school. Due to the need to mitigate against the spread of the COVID19 virus, however, certain precautions will be in place to help keep everyone healthy. The required steps are outlined in this Guide and were developed by the CDC and the Kentucky Department of Health.

Parents may choose to send their children to attend school in person or enroll their child in *Home Correspondence Instruction* (HCI online).

## **Social Distancing**

### **Safety Expectations from the Kentucky Department for Public Health**

- Students will have their temperature checked before entering the school building. Students may pick up a *Grab and Go Breakfast* and will report to their designated location to eat breakfast. Immediately after eating breakfast, students are to report to their classroom promptly for the start of class time. Students who choose not to eat breakfast will report to their classroom or designated area until class begins.
- When possible, there will be 6 feet between student desks in the classroom.
- Floors in certain common areas will be marked as a reminder of distances that are 6 feet apart.
- Students will strive to maintain a social distance of 6 feet throughout the school day – including while in hallways, during arrival/dismissal as well as any transitions that take place during the day.
- Students will strive to maintain a social distance of 6 feet in common areas such as bathrooms (between sinks/stalls), school office, bus loading/unloading areas, pickup areas, etc.
- Classroom sizes will be reduced when possible to allow for smaller groups of students to decrease the potential need for contact tracing.
- When possible, students will remain with the same group of students throughout the day and teachers will rotate from room to room.
- Field trips, assemblies, and other large group activities will be avoided to the degree possible to ensure adequate social distancing of students in large common areas.
- Playground equipment will be closed until further notice.

## **Cloth Face-Coverings**

### **Safety Requirements as determined by the Kentucky Department for Public Health**

- Each student should bring their own cloth face-covering/mask each day to school. Preschool and kindergarten students may wear masks but are not required to do so. Masks should be washed each day before returning to school. Provisions will be made for students who arrive without a cloth face-covering/mask or do not have resources to obtain one. Cloth face-covering/masks that display inappropriate messages, wording, images will not be permitted.
- Students in grades 1-12 are required to wear a cloth face-covering/mask except those who have a medical exemption. Students must wear a cloth face covering/mask while riding on

the bus and in the classroom. The cloth face-covering/mask should cover both nose and mouth. However, if students are experiencing difficulty breathing, they may pull down their mask per CDC guidance.

### **Screening and Exclusion Criteria**

#### **Kentucky Department for Public Health Requirements Safety Expectations**

- Temperature checks with touchless thermometers will be performed with all students and staff before entering the building. Temperatures of 100.5 degrees and greater will require that the student or staff member return home.
- Students who have a temperature of 100.5 or greater will be cared for in a safe health zone until parents arrive to pick-up their child. Students with temperatures of 100.5 or greater, may return to school after being free of fever for at least 24 hours (without taking fever reducing medication).
- After testing positive for COVID, the student is eligible to return to school 10 days after the onset of symptoms.
- If a student is quarantined as the result of close contact with the index (one who tests positive for COVID19) of the diagnosed case, the student may return to school after 14 days upon completion of quarantine.

### **Best Practices**

- To reduce gathering in common areas, lockers will not be used.
- Students may bring backpacks.
- Good hygiene will be practiced (handwashing, sanitizer, etc...)
- Wear a mask. Do not share/trade masks.
- Properly wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue.
- Avoid contact with sick people and stay home if you are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Practice social distancing.

## **Bus Transportation**

We will need to follow new rules this year due to COVID 19. These are in place to keep your child and your family safe. If students refuse to follow these rules they will not be allowed to ride the bus.

- Some of the windows and roof hatches will be open. Please leave them open.
- Students will be seated according to a strict seating chart. Students need to sit where they are assigned. No exceptions.
- We will be loading the bus back to front.
- The first two seats will remain open.
- Students in grades 1-12 are required to wear masks unless there is a medical exemption. Students in preschool and kindergarten may wear a mask but are not required to do so.
- Attendance and the seating chart will be checked each time students ride the bus. We will not unload until attendance and the seating chart has been completed. Students will need extra patience.
- Students should use hand sanitizer upon entering the bus.
- Parents should not send their child to the bus stop if they have a temperature of 100.5 or greater.
- Buses will be sanitized daily.

## **Breakfast and Lunch**

- Breakfast and Lunch will be provided daily.
- Students may pick up a *Grab and Go* breakfast in the cafeteria upon arrival to school. Students may eat breakfast in the cafeteria or in a designated area communicated by the teacher/Principal.
- Students will go to lunch with their class to pick up a *Grab and Go* lunch and eat in the cafeteria or in their designated area.
- Student desks may be used in the cafeteria instead of cafeteria tables.
- Students will not be required to wear a mask while eating and will be spaced 6 feet apart.

Note: This plan will be updated as needed.

## Parent FAQ

### **What will In-Person Instruction look like?**

In-Person Attendance will be the traditional instructional model in every way except for the additional practices designed to help safeguard student and staff health as required by the CDC and KDE. Students will attend school in-person and will receive instruction in the classroom.

### **Home Correspondence Instruction (HCI Online)**

Instruction will be provided online via *Google Classroom* by your child's teacher. Lessons may be accessed via online instructional activities, assignments, recordings, and/or livestream as determined by the curriculum and instructional course design.

If students do not have access to a device, one may be requested at the school.

### **May I transfer my child from Home Correspondence Instruction (HCI) Online to In-Person?**

Yes, parents/guardians may complete a *Transfer to In-Person Request* no later than three school days before the first day of the midterm or beginning of the 9 week grading period. The midterm and 9 week dates will be posted online. Students attending in-person school on Sept. 3 will be registered for in-person school. Students not attending in-person school on Sept. 3, will be registered for HCI/online.

### **May I transfer my child from In-Person Attendance to HCI online?**

Yes, parents/guardians may complete a *Transfer to HCI Request* and submit to the school principal.

### **Athletics**

Students enrolled in either the Laurel County Schools HCI / online program or in-person classes are eligible to participate in athletics. See the KHSAA [Healthy at Sports](#) guidance for individual sport safety considerations.

### **What steps will be taken if someone at school becomes diagnosed with COVID-19?**

The Laurel County Health Department will conduct Contact Tracing and provide guidance and direction regarding issues related to quarantine, diagnosed COVID-19 cases, and mitigation.