

# RETURN TO SCHOOL

2023-2024

Official Publication of the LCSD



*The vision of the Lafayette County School District is "Anchored to Excellence," with the mission being "to provide students an exceptional education in a nurturing environment by creating a distinguished, innovative, school community highly regarded for excellence, opportunity, and service."*

## OVERVIEW

---

As we continue to work through the effects of a worldwide pandemic, LCSD strives to return to a pre-pandemic mindset utilizing the new knowledge the past year has taught us. In the following information, you will see the 2023-2024 re-entry plan for our school district. We are confident that our drive to return to "normal" is with the safety and well-being of all our students, faculty, and staff at the forefront. Extra precautions will continue to be in place to help minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Please review the Return to School Plan and be assured that we will continue to be "Anchored to Excellence" in all we do at the Lafayette County School District.

## ACADEMICS / INSTRUCTION

---

- The district will return to traditional, in-person instruction that requires all students to be physically present in school.
- 180 days of school with 330 instructional minutes daily.

### Lesson Plans

- Teachers will plan a week in advance based on 330 instructional minutes daily (as applicable). Teachers will develop lessons with a digital shift in mind.
- Administrators and grade-level chairs will identify and ensure priority standards (foundational skills) are taught and assessed according to building administrator guidance.
- District instructional pacing will be followed throughout the school year.
- Students will be issued a Chromebook for instructional purposes.

## COMMUNICATION

---

### Employees

- Information will be shared with internal stakeholders first. All communication with the public will be transmitted from the district level.
- Emails from building-level administrators will be sent to all employees for regular weekly communication and COVID-19 updates as needed. Group text messages will be used to communicate quickly and directly to employees as needed.

- Communication with parents will be done in a timely manner: employees should check and respond to emails within 24 hours. If employees do not know the answer to a question, they should consult their building administrator for more information.

## **Parents/Guardians/Students**

- LCSD will communicate with parents/guardians the daily procedures that will be taking place in all schools.
- Weekly communication with updates/news will be emailed to parents/guardians.
- Local news outlets will receive press releases as needed.
- The district will stay in constant contact with school and community health officials, with guidance by the Mississippi Department of Health on how to remain safe and healthy during any pandemic or crisis. All information will remain current, and action steps will state how the district will respond to arising situations. The district will ensure that everyone has the necessary information to help students cope with all crises. The district will post communications and social media posts for when spread levels are confirmed and action is needed. LCSD will not release information identifying individuals. LCSD will work continuously with local and state agencies to confirm and dispel information regarding COVID-19 and all pandemic illnesses in a timely manner.

## **HEALTH & SAFETY**

---

### **Transportation**

- Family groups will stay together on the bus.
- Social distancing will be practiced when appropriate.

### **Disinfecting Rooms/Buildings**

- Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as desks and doorknobs and often shared objects after each use.
- School nurses will be assigned to each school. The nurse office and medical equipment will be disinfected after every patient visit using an approved Covid cleaner.
- Additional time will be allowed between class changes to allow for transitions.

### **Cafeteria**

- Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria. The location of meals is subject to change as warranted by health needs.

### **General Safety Precautions**

#### *At School*

- Students will be encouraged to bring their own refillable water bottle from home.
- Elementary Staff will regularly teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing.
- Visitors will be allowed to campus with limits. Parents will not be allowed to walk students to the classrooms.

## General Safety Precautions

### *At Home*

- Parents should take their child's temperature daily before sending them to school. If their child has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, they must be kept home until fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medicine.
- Parents are to update all phone numbers and contact information via SAM/Active Parent.
- Parents will be required to pick up students when contacted due to illness. A child should be picked up within 1 hour. Nurses will share the signs of illness as needed.
- Parents are encouraged to notify the school if their child has tested positive for COVID-19.

## ATHLETICS

---

- Athletics and extracurricular activities will operate under the direction of the MHSAA.

## QUARANTINE PROCEDURES

### **The parent notifies the school that the student has tested positive for Covid-19**

- Quarantine at home for 5 calendar days from the onset of symptoms. If no symptoms after 5 days, return to school.
- Fever free for at least 24 hours without medication. If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.
- Decrease in symptoms

### **The student notifies school staff of his/her Covid-19 symptoms**

- The student is immediately removed from class and isolated in a designated location
- The parent/guardian is contacted by the school nurse

#### *- Negative Test Result*

- Return to school after:
  - Fever free for at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medication
  - Decrease in symptoms

#### *+ Positive Test Result*

- Return to school after:
  - Quarantine for 5 calendar days from the onset of symptoms. If no symptoms after 5 days, return to school.
  - Fever-free for at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medication. If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.
  - Decrease in symptoms