



2021-2022 COVID-19 Prevention Measures

After a thorough review of back-to-school guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas State Department of Education, and Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health, Lawrence Public Schools will implement these COVID-19 prevention measures during the 2021-2022 school year.

Students benefit from in-person learning and safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall of 2021 is a priority. These mitigation strategies will assist in maintaining safe learning environments for all students and staff.

The district will continue to work in collaboration with federal, state, and local health officials to monitor information about COVID-19 spread.

Mitigation strategies are subject to change.

Behaviors that Reduce COVID-19 Spread

Vaccination

- The district strongly encourages staff and students eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine to be vaccinated prior to the start of school or as soon as possible.
- The district will continue to:
 - Provide educational information to students, staff, and families about COVID-19 vaccination.
 - Work with local public health officials to provide vaccination opportunities for staff, students, and families.

Staying Home When Appropriate

- The district will:
 - Continue to educate and encourage staff, students, and families to follow public health and safety measures in and out of school.
 - Encourage staff to use a [Daily Self-Assessment](#) to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of illness.
 - Encourage families to use a [Daily Assessment](#) to monitor students for signs and symptoms of illness.
 - Provide staff information about recognizing COVID-19 signs and symptoms.
- Anyone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever (100.0), cough, or shortness of breath, should stay home and seek medical advice, as necessary. (The district will follow its attendance protocols for staff and students. Families should contact their child's school to report absences. Staff should report absences through Frontline/Time Clock.)
- Staff and families should notify school officials if they or their children have COVID-19 symptoms, test positive for COVID-19, are waiting for test results, or had exposure to someone with symptoms or a confirmed or suspected case while not fully vaccinated.

Hand Hygiene & Respiratory Etiquette

- Schools will continue to educate and encourage students and staff to:
 - Wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or if soap and water are not available, to use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
 - Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, throw tissues in the trash, and immediately wash hands or use hand sanitizer.

Cloth Face Coverings, Masks, & PPE

- Fully vaccinated individuals may wear masks at their discretion.
 - Individuals are considered fully vaccinated two weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series or two weeks after a single-dose vaccine.

- The district requires all individuals, ages 2 and older, who are not fully vaccinated to wear cloth face coverings or masks when indoors on school property. (See [CDC guidance about wearing face masks.](#))
 - The district will not request proof of vaccination and requests the cooperation and support of all members of the school community in maintaining safe environments for all students and staff.
 - Staff will provide mask breaks for students.
 - Masks do not need to be worn when outside, while eating, or during designated mask breaks.
 - The district prohibits the use of masks with vents or valves, per CDC guidance.
 - Special education teams will work with families to determine appropriate use of personal protective equipment based on student individual needs.
 - Staff will work on a case-by-case basis with individuals unable to wear a mask. (See [Mask Exemption Form.](#))
- The district will make available:
 - Masks, face shields, and gloves for staff and students, as needed.
 - N95 NIOSH masks for staff, as needed.
 - Gowns for staff performing procedures where contact with bodily fluids is likely.

Temperature Screening

- The district encourages staff, students, and visitors to use devices provided for temperature checks when needed.
- Schools will conduct temperature checks when staff or students report COVID-19 symptoms.

COVID Testing

- The district will provide saliva-based PCR test kits upon request.
- Schools will provide saliva-based PCR test kits when staff and students report COVID-19 symptoms.

Defining Cases

- Staff will send individuals with a confirmed, probable, or suspected case of COVID-19 home to isolate until test results.
- Individuals with a confirmed, probable, or suspected case of COVID-19 should complete public health isolation requirements (10 days from

symptom onset and fever-free for 72 hours OR 10 days from collection of the specimen if asymptomatic).

- Probable Case: Either clinical evidence and epidemiological link OR presumptive lab result with epi link or clinical symptoms.
- Confirmed Case: Meets PCR lab-confirmed criteria. (See [Case Definitions](#).)

Infection Periods

- Positive Cases: 48 hours prior to symptom onset (or 48 hours prior to specimen collection) to 10 days after symptom onset (or 10 days after specimen collection).

Close Contact

- Fully vaccinated individuals are exempt from quarantine, unless symptomatic.
- Anyone not fully vaccinated who is within 6 ft. of an infected individual for longer than 10 minutes.
- Anyone not fully vaccinated with direct respiratory particle exposure, even if less than 10 minutes (e.g. coughing on someone).
- Anyone not fully vaccinated with household contact with an infected individual.
- Cloth masks do not eliminate close contact.
- Quarantine for close contacts is 10 days following the last exposure.

Advising Staff & Families of Student Illness

- In accordance with state and local laws and regulations, the district will notify local health officials, staff, and families of reported cases of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- The district will follow Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health guidelines for quarantine and isolation.

Separation While in School/Care Rooms

- Each school will have a room or space separate from the clinic where students or staff who may have COVID-19 or another communicable disease will wait for evaluation or for pickup.

- Schools will inform parents to pick up their child immediately if the child becomes ill at school.
- Families should keep emergency contact numbers updated in PowerSchool by notifying the school office.

Household Exposure for Students & Staff

- Quarantine affects direct contacts who are not fully vaccinated. It does not affect secondary contacts.
 - Example: If there is a positive case named Leo, Leo's unvaccinated family members will be in quarantine. Leo's unvaccinated classmates will be in quarantine. Leo's classmates' families are secondary contacts and will not be in quarantine.
 - Fully vaccinated close contacts are not subject to quarantine, unless symptomatic.

Isolation & Quarantine

- The district will follow Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health guidelines for isolation and quarantine due to COVID-19.
- Staff will provide remote or hybrid instruction from the classroom via Webex and online resources when necessary due to student isolation or quarantine.
 - The district will provide Webex training for all new staff.

Returning to School

- The district will follow Lawrence-Douglas County Public Health guidelines for returning to school after isolation or quarantine.

Maintaining Healthy Environments & Operations

Social Distancing

- Schools will:
 - Observe 3 ft., or as much social distancing as possible, given the physical environment.
 - Provide visual cues about safety measures in classrooms and hallways.
 - Provide directional signs in buildings, as necessary.
 - Remove extra furniture and unnecessary materials from classrooms to increase available space.

Cleaning & Disinfecting

- Custodial teams will follow the district's established cleaning procedures in maintaining healthy and clean environments and prioritize high-touch areas, including handles, handrails, counters and surfaces, tables, chairs, desks, etc.
- Custodians will clean restrooms throughout the school day.
- The district will train all staff in effective cleaning and disinfecting procedures.
- Staff will provide hand sanitizer stations in multiple locations throughout the building for frequent use.
- Custodians will provide cleaner, disinfectant, and cleaning cloths for classrooms, upon staff request or signup.
- Building administrators will encourage non-custodial staff to clean and disinfect their classrooms and work areas.
- Building administrators will notify the custodial staff of COVID-19 cases so they may close affected areas for cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing.

Communal Spaces

- Observe 3 ft., or as much social distancing as possible, given the physical environment.
- Office areas will include signage informing staff, students, and visitors who are not fully vaccinated to:
 - Wear a mask
 - Observe 3 ft., or as much social distancing as possible, given the physical environment.
- No lunch guests.

Physical Guides

- Schools will provide physical guides, such as decals on floors and sidewalks and signs on walls, to remind staff, students, and visitors of social distancing.

Playgrounds & Recess

- Students and staff do not need to wear masks when outdoors.
- Students and staff should wash or sanitize hands before and after recess.
- Students may use playground equipment.

Food Service

- Food Service will provide free meals for all students.
- Staff will clean and sanitize all carts, utensils, and food surfaces after each use.
- Staff may use disposable items (e.g. utensils, dishes) for meals.
- Schools will use a simplified menu and provide grab-and-go meal options.
- Schools will follow National School Breakfast and Lunch Program meal requirements.
- No guests may join students for meals.

Food Service & Management of Food Allergies

- Elementary building administrators, in cooperation with Food Service staff, will determine the location and logistics for meal consumption and share that information with parents.
- Secondary students will eat in cafeterias or other designated dining areas.
- The district will continue to reference the CDC's Voluntary Guidelines for Managing Food Allergies.
- Schools will follow these guidelines for eating:
 - A staff member will provide supervision in the designated location where students eat meals and snacks.
 - Staff will enforce handwashing before and after meals and snacks.
 - Staff will clean surfaces before and after meals and snacks.
 - Students may not trade or share food.

Classroom Modified Layouts

- Staff will maintain seating charts for use in contact tracing.
- When the physical environment permits, students will sit facing the same direction.
- Staff will utilize outdoor spaces for instructional purposes when possible.
- Plexiglass dividers are available for staff use.
- Secondary schools may resume the use of soft furniture.
- Elementary schools will keep soft furniture in storage.

Sharing Facilities

- The district will accept community requests for facility use beginning August 1, 2021.

Visitors

- The district prohibits indoor visitors at elementary facilities during the school day.
- Secondary schools will allow indoor visitors.
- Visitors (ages 2 and older) to secondary schools who are not fully vaccinated will wear masks indoors.
- All visitors will follow sign-in procedures.
- Visitors who are not fully vaccinated will observe 3 ft., or as much social distancing as possible, given the physical environment.
- No visitors during meal times.
- Staff may conduct virtual parent/teacher conferences from the classroom via Webex at the request of a parent/guardian.

Attendance

- The district will follow attendance protocols for staff and students.
- Families should contact their child's school to report student absences.
- Staff should report absences through Frontline or the Time Clock.

Transportation

- Buses will be regularly cleaned, disinfected, and sanitized.
- All drivers and riders on school buses and in district vans will wear masks at all times.
- Maintain a seating chart for passengers.
- Open windows and vents when possible.

Field Trips & Gatherings

- Staff will incorporate district mitigation strategies into the planning of field trips and gatherings for the safety of students, staff, and families.
- No elementary field trips or activities unless outdoors.
- No capacity limitations for gatherings.

Water Systems

- Water fountains will not be available.
- Staff and students should bring their own water bottles.
- Water bottle fillers are available.

Ventilation

- The district provides air purification devices in all classrooms, offices, and workspaces, excluding larger areas, such as gyms and cafeterias where social distancing is possible.
- Staff should use air purification devices during the school and workday and turn them off when leaving the building.
- The district will continue to monitor air quality and install new filtration systems when needed.

Instructional Materials/Shared Objects

- Limit the sharing of supplies whenever possible.

COVID-19 Points of Contact & Response Teams

- School nurses will serve as points of contact for COVID-19.
- Each building will maintain a COVID-19 response team.

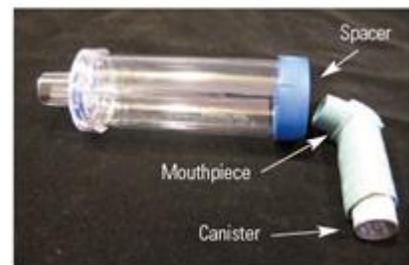
Changes in Asthma Management

Nebulizers

- Lawrence Public Schools will not allow students to receive nebulizer treatments at school. Nebulizers are small air-compressor machines that individuals with asthma breathe into and out of to administer a liquid form of albuterol. Exhalations through nebulizers used by someone with COVID-19 can spray the virus into the air. Families should consult their physician about alternative treatments, such as metered-dose inhalers with spacers, for their child's school asthma plan.

Metered-Dose Inhalers

- Families must provide a personal spacer for all metered-dose inhalers used at school. Please contact a health care provider if the child's metered-dose inhaler does not have a spacer.



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