

Lincoln Park School District

Safe Return Plan

2021-2022

Presented by Michael Meyer, Superintendent of Schools

June 15, 2021

Updated January 3, 2022

Objective & Process

The NJDOE requires we “Plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services for all schools.”

We will ensure that our plan addresses the needs of our community of learners and empowers us to offer the best educational services that conditions will allow. We are not trying to return to “normal.” We are striving to improve upon what we had prior to Covid-19.

LPES Schedule

- Transitional first grade
- Intervention period for each grade level
- Extended lunch periods

LPMS Schedule

- Foundations period
- 48 minute blocks
- 48 minute lunch split with Flex Period

Maintaining Health & Safety: Universal & Correct Wearing of Masks

The district will follow the most current executive orders or regulations regarding all mitigation strategies. Signage regarding safety measures will remain present. If masks are required, staff will review how to wear a mask correctly. PPE will be available for staff and students.

Maintaining Health & Safety: Social Distancing

As per the governor's direction, we intend to open with every student in their school every day. We will maintain a 3 foot distance between students and will keep that distance plus shields up in the cafeteria. Flex period can be used to further reduce the number of students in the cafeteria at any one time at the middle school. At the elementary school, some classes may eat in their rooms.

Maintaining Health & Safety: Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

Signage with hand washing reminders will remain in place. Teachers will review proper handwashing procedures and respiratory etiquette (sneezing and coughing) with students as appropriate for their grade level. Hand sanitizer will be provided at school entrances, in each classroom, the cafeteria and throughout the hallways.

Maintaining Health & Safety: Cleaning & maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

The district will continue to employ the strategies that helped us successfully navigate the 2020-2021 school year:

- Opening windows to increase fresh air flow
- Daily cleaning with electrostatic sprayers
- Pursuing a March 8, 2022 bond referendum to improve our existing HVAC systems

Maintaining Health & Safety: Contact tracing in combination with isolation & quarantine

The district will continue to follow the most current executive orders, policies and guidance that are in effect at the time of reopening. The school nurses and principals will maintain our strong working relationship with our local health department to provide support for contact tracing, isolation and quarantining, if necessary. We will strive to follow the latest guidance available.

Maintaining Health & Safety: Diagnostic and Screening testing

Lincoln Park Public Schools will follow all of the current executive orders, policies and guidance in effect at the time of reopening. The district has contracted with LTS to provide on-site testing for staff and students, twice each week. This will ensure compliance with EO 253. Parents will also be reminded periodically about monitoring for symptoms and keeping at home, students who are ill or demonstrate COVID related symptoms.

Maintaining Health & Safety: Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities

The district works closely with the Lincoln Park Health Department to communicate information about vaccination opportunities for our staff and community. Updates will continue to be shared through email and the electronic backpacks.

Maintaining Health & Safety: Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health & safety policies

The district will follow all Individual Education Plans (IEP) and 504s to ensure that the needs of all of our students are met. For students with disabilities or specific health needs, individualized health plans will be generated in collaboration with the district physician, school nurses, and students' pediatricians.

As needed, case managers will communicate accommodations to the appropriate staff members.

Ensuring Continuity of Services: Students' academic needs

- Continued benchmarking via iReady & DBLS
- Teacher coach position
- Frequent monitoring for MTSS placement
- Summer enrichment programs for identified students

Ensuring Continuity of Services: Social, emotional, and mental health needs of students and staff

SEL and mental health have been priorities for our district for years. We will incorporate many new elements as well as continuing with successful strategies from the past:

- Responsive Classroom built into homeroom
- LPMS program built into an enrichment period
- Calming boxes in LPES classrooms
- Summer SEL planning time
- Trauma informed PD training

Ensuring Continuity of Services:

Consideration of health and food services

- Minimal increase in the price of lunches
- Encourage the use of cashless transactions
- Offering free lunches to all who are eligible under Federal guidelines.
- An additional lunch period at LPES to minimize the number of students in the cafeteria at once

Thank You!