



LUTIE R-VI SCHOOL DISTRICT

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

SRCSP

Updated 6/21/2021 and Board Adopted

This plan will be reviewed as CDC Guidelines change at a minimum every six months.

Lutie R-VI School District's goal is to create an environment as safe as possible while providing quality educational experiences that include opportunities for social interaction, small group instruction, and extracurricular activities. We have taken recommendations from the CDC, local and state health departments, Missouri Department of Education, and many others. We also believe that there is no substitute for in person teaching and learning.

One of the biggest concerns with reopening schools across America is class size. We are very fortunate at Lutie to be able to offer small class sizes across all grade levels. We have added additional teachers to the elementary staff, so all grade levels will be singular this year. At the middle school and high school level we are going to a 10-block schedule. This will allow more course offerings and smaller class sizes. More popular courses will have been divided into multiple sections to keep the class sizes small.

While we cannot guarantee your child will not get COVID-19, we can take every precaution necessary. We hope the following information helps answer many of the questions you may have about beginning school in August. This school year will begin on Tuesday, August 24, 2021.

Mitigation and Prevention Strategies for the 2021-22 School Year

1. What precautions will be taken regarding cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities to ensure student and staff health and safety?

Some of the precautions we have taken, or will have taken by the time school starts include:

- Spraying the entire campus, including buses, with an eco-friendly (EPA-approved) virus killing solution using a biostatic process that lasts 90 days. (This will be repeated up to 5 times a year.)
- Intensify cleaning and disinfecting measures to ensure the physical space, equipment, and materials are safe to use.
- Changing HVAC filters monthly with MERV 13 filters.
- Daily sanitizing will be implemented for high touch areas (door knobs, handles, fixtures, etc.) throughout the day.
- Added numerous hand sanitizers and touchless dispensers.
- Added several no touch faucets and flush valves in rest rooms.
- Provide water bottles to use at our new touchless water bottle filling stations.
- Updating several HVAC units to improve ventilation.
- Limit non-essential visitors.
- Train teachers and staff regarding new safety procedures and social distancing requirements.
- **Stay consistent with CDC guidelines**

2. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments. **We will stay consistent with CDC guidelines**

3. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies will always be followed. Reasonable accommodations will be made as necessary or as mandated by the Individual Education Plan or other documentation.

4. Universal and correct wearing of masks: Who will be required to wear face coverings?

- Student: **Consistent with CDC guidelines**
 - All teachers and staff will still be required to wear face coverings when in the building unless vaccinated. **We will follow any changes and all CDC guidelines regarding wearing of masks.**

At this time Grades 6-12 will be required to wear a mask during passing periods or where social distancing is difficult but always consistent with CDC guidelines. Any younger student who wants to wear a mask during class is more than welcome and of course encouraged. If you send you child, of any age, with a mask they certainly may wear it. We can and will provide youth cloth masks that can be washed up to 20 times. Machine drying is not recommended due to shrinkage.

5. Physical Distancing: Will social distancing guidelines be observed?

- Yes, social distancing will be observed as much as possible. When social distancing requirements cannot be maintained (such as between class time, etc.) students will be required and or strongly encouraged to wear a face covering, depending on the grade level as mentioned above.
- We will still alternate meal schedules to enable social distancing. Elementary students will be required to eat breakfast in the classroom, while enjoying a morning read aloud from the teacher. High school students will alternate between eating in the classroom and/or cafeteria.
- **Consistent with CDC guidelines**

6. Diagnostic and screening: Will students and adults be screened daily?

- Yes, adults will complete a daily screening process, including a checklist questionnaire and have their temperature taken before entering the building.
- Students will have their temperature taken before entering the building.
- Masks will be required for all adult visitors and vendors.
- Covid testing may be done onsite per parent request as current guidelines dictate.

7. Efforts will be made to help provide vaccinations to educators, staff or students if eligible.

- The district will participate in vaccination events if the opportunity presents.

8. Hand washing and respiratory etiquette

- **Consistent with CDC guidelines**
- Instructing students to wash hands and providing time to do so.
- Sanitizer and tissues provided

If a student comes to school sick or becomes sick during the day, what will happen?

- If a student is sick, the nurse will screen the student, and check their temperature. If the temperature is 99.5 degrees or higher, the student will be isolated and sent home.
- We will provide a separate place for sick students, while awaiting the arrival of their parents to pick them up. If your child has a fever at school, you will be notified to pick them up immediately.

How normal will the day be for students?

- Our goal is for your student(s) to have as normal of a day as possible while also providing an environment that is as safe as possible. Students will not remain in the same classroom all day but will be able to transition from one class to another.
- Elementary students will be allowed to play outside at recess. The only exception to this is the weather, as we have always practiced. From all indications, the virus does not live long on outdoor surfaces and in direct sunlight. We will encourage students to keep a distance between each other while playing. They will be required to wash their hands once returning inside the building.

Will students still have extra classes like PE, art, music, and library?

- Yes, students will continue to participate in their specials classes and check out library books. In some cases, the teacher may present lessons in the students' classroom to reduce the amount of cleaning.

Will classrooms still be arranged differently to protect students?

- Yes, classrooms will be arranged to provide more space between students. This might mean all desks are arranged in rows facing in a single direction. It might result in reading areas with bean bags, couches, or comfy chairs being removed. We will make every effort to provide distance but not limit students' ability to interact and communicate with others in the classroom. Supplies and materials will not be allowed to be shared.

How will you help fill any gaps my student has from the previous year?

- All students will be assessed at the beginning of the school year, or before, to determine areas of strengths and weaknesses. Classroom teachers and the Title 1 staff will address student's needs during small group and guided instructions throughout the school year. We will not use combined grade levels in order to help social distancing, but also to provide a smaller class size and increase one on one instruction and help address any learning gaps.
- After school tutoring will be provided Tuesdays through Fridays to catch a student up by addressing learning gaps or to focus on a specific need. After school learning activities will be planned throughout the year to address any learning gaps.

Will bus transportation be provided?

- Yes, the district will provide bus transportation as was provided in previous school years. We will be requiring siblings to sit together on buses and spacing as much as possible between family groups on the bus (assigned seats will be required). In addition, students will sanitize their hands before entering the bus.

Will students attend school every day?

- We plan for students to attend school daily (Tuesday-Friday). In the event of a shut down, we will implement our AMI (Alternative Methods of Instruction) packets. We will utilize Google Classroom, Google Meets, and/or Zoom daily with seat time required in the application. Assignments will be posted in Google Classroom for students to submit. We know that every family in this district may not have adequate internet service at their home and we are working through grants to address that. In addition there will not be any virtual learning this year due to Covid 19 but will only be used in case of an outbreak and a temporary closing of school. Because of this possibility we are again adding to our enrollment packet questions regarding home internet access and ownership of a laptop or tablet.

What changes have been made to the attendance policy?

- We are asking parents to help us to keep everyone healthy by **NOT** sending your child to school if he/she exhibits the following symptoms: fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches (not due to known exercise or injury), headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, diarrhea, or vomiting. If your child is sick, we simply ask that you call us and let us know. Your child will be able to make up the work as provided by the guidelines in each student handbook.
- If your child is quarantined due to exposure to someone with COVID-19 and we are notified by a Local Health Department, we will provide a laptop for your child (if needed) to work from home. If your child **HAS COVID-19**, you will be required to stay home a minimum of 10 days or per recent CDC guidelines **AND** provide proof of a negative or antibody test to return to school.

As our partner in safety, we know prevention and safety discussions happen first at home. With this in mind, we ask parents to teach their children proper hand washing at home and talk to their children about how to reduce the spread of germs. Please remind them not to touch their face, nose, mouth, eyes, and to sneeze/cough with a tissue or into their elbow. Covering their mouth when they cough with a tissue or into their elbow will also help prevent the spread of germs. Proper hand washing and sanitation will go a long way keeping everyone healthy.

Will we have an open house?

- Yes, it will be different than in past school years. We will post a virtual open house for returning students. New students and students who have a new staff member will schedule an open house meeting with that teacher the first week of August. More details will be sent home closer to August. Adults will be required to fill out a health questionnaire and all parties will have their temperature taken upon entering the school building.

What if there is a confirmed Case of COVID-19 in the school building?

- When there is confirmation that a person infected with COVID-19 was in the school building, an administrator or the school nurse will contact the local health department immediately. Unless extenuating circumstances exist, the Superintendent will close the school building for a minimum of 2-5 days and work with the local health department to assess factors such as the likelihood of exposure to employees and students in the building, the number of cases in the community and other factors that will determine when the building should reopen. The Superintendent will contact parents/students and employees and notify them that a person who tested positive for COVID-19 was in the building and encourage cooperation with the district and the local health department to trace contacts with the individual. The individual who tested positive will not be identified in communications to the school community at large but may need to be selectively identified for contact tracing by the health department. While the school building is closed, all school activities will be cancelled or rescheduled, regardless of whether the activity was to take place in the building or another location, including extracurricular activities, before and after-school programs, and field trips. Parents/students and employees will be encouraged to stay at home until more information is provided by the Superintendent or the health department.

In closing, please remember that we will not hesitate to make changes to our plans as additional guidance is released regarding COVID-19. The health and safety of our students and staff is of paramount importance. We always appreciate the support of our Lutie families and staff, but we especially appreciate your support right now as we work through the many details for providing

the best learning possible for your children during this most unusual time. With your help, we can get back to school and make up for any lost academic time that may have occurred. We look forward to seeing you on August 24th.