

Lynchburg-Clay Local School District

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

*In Compliance with American Rescue Plan: Elementary and Secondary School
Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER).*

This plan was developed in coordination between district certified and non-certified staff, administrators, students, parents, and community agencies.

These general principles will guide our school community as we continue services in the Lynchburg-Clay Local School District.

1. Our school district will implement recommended safety protocols to the highest degree possible.
2. Our school district will work closely with the Highland County Health Department to promote health and safety in all school buildings.
3. Our school district will be transparent with all stakeholders that some level of risk will always be present when children and school district employees occupy school district facilities.
4. Our school district recognizes the need for consistency in areas of operations while also recognizing that individual differences in classroom sizes, school facilities and building operations may lead to some inconsistencies.

These guidelines will be common throughout the Lynchburg-Clay Local School District:

Daily Self-Monitoring

- Student wellness checks, including temperature, should be conducted at home on a daily basis before coming to school.
- Student wellness checks, including temperatures, may be conducted at school each morning.

Student Illness

- Any student with a fever of 100 degrees or higher should stay home.
- Any student that has the following symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home from school and see their primary care provider to be assessed:
 - Any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing

OR

- Two of the following symptoms: fever (measured or subjective), chills, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, GI issues (nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea)

OR

- Any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fever (measured or subjective), chills, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, GI issues (nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea)

AND

- A link to a case of COVID-19.

Returning to School After Illness

- If a student is diagnosed as having COVID-19, they must meet the following criteria to return to school:
 - 3 days with no fever (without using fever reducing medication)

AND

 - Other symptoms improved

AND

 - 10 days since symptoms first appeared.
- Students that only have a fever and no other symptoms and have not had any contact with an individual that has COVID-19, may return to school after he/she has been fever free for 72 hours without using fever reducing medications.
- Any other illnesses should be handled in the routine manner according to our district policies.
- To return to school the child must be transported to school by the parent and must be checked by the school nurse.

Communication: Positive case of COVID-19 in a Student or Staff Member

- Communication will be developed in cooperation with the Highland County Health Department. The communication may include the following:
 - Specificity to parents of the classroom/bus/school building/or other school activity in which the confirmed case was located.
 - Cooperation between the district and the Highland County Health Department in contact tracing to identify close contacts of a positive COVID-19 case.
 - The Highland County Health Department has defined close contact as being closer than 6 foot to another person for at least 15 minutes at a time.
 - A quarantine period may be required per the Highland County Health Department.

Food Service

- All buildings will offer food service. Logistics will be determined by each building in compliance with the Highland County Health Department based on the following:
 - Capacity/occupancy of school cafeteria
 - Need for prepackaged food.

Classroom Occupancy

- The Lynchburg-Clay Local School District will implement the recommended safety protocols but any student who attends school will incur some level of risk. The district will decrease the likelihood of infection with hygiene, cleaning and safety procedures, but being in a public place has a certain level of risk that cannot be eliminated.
- Classroom occupancy will be determined based on each individual classroom circumstance with the maximum amount of safety considerations as possible.

Face Covering Guidelines

Effective June 2, 2021 Governor DeWine's mask mandate will expire. We will continue to follow the Governor's orders, however, have created the following face covering guidelines should the order be reinstated.

School Staff: All school staff and volunteers must wear face coverings unless it is unsafe to do so or where doing so would significantly interfere with the learning process.

Exceptions include:

- Facial coverings in the school setting are prohibited by law or regulation.
- Facial coverings are in violation of documented industry standards.
- Facial coverings are not advisable for health reasons.
- Facial coverings are in violation of schools documented safety policies.
- Facial coverings are not required when the staff works alone in an assigned work area.
- There is a functional (practical) reason for a staff member to not wear a facial covering in the workplace.

School nurses or staff who care for individuals with symptoms must use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), provided by the school, in accordance with OSHA standards.

Face shields can be used as an alternative to cloth face coverings. Some situations where face shields would be useful include:

- When interacting with students, such as those with disabilities, where communication could be impacted.
- When interacting with English-language learners or when teaching a foreign language, receiving speech therapy, developing phonemic awareness, or learning phonics. Some instructional activities may require students to view a teacher's face during the lesson.
- Settings where cloth masks might present a safety hazard (ie: science labs).
- For individuals who have difficulty wearing a cloth face covering.

Virtual Online Learning

- Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year we will offer in person learning to all of our students.

Visitors/Volunteers/Parties

- There are different levels of school visitors and each building will make decisions on an individual basis.
- Visitors are generally discouraged from being in school district facilities.
- Safety protocols such as taking temperatures and hand sanitization may be implemented.
- Face coverings are required for all visitors and volunteers during school hours.

Transportation

- Lynchburg-Clay Local School district will allow two students per seat and in some cases three if the children are younger and therefore smaller.
- Our district will attempt to seat siblings or students of the same household together in a seat.
- Seating charts will be used.
- In the event that state policies require school districts to use alternative schedules, the Lynchburg-Clay School District may adopt minimum requirements for transportation to reduce the number of students who are eligible for school district transportation.

Recess (Elementary only)

- Lynchburg-Clay Local School District will make every effort to maintain consistency with safety procedures.
- This may mean that there will be limited access to certain pieces of playground equipment and a restriction on activities that are “high touch” and difficult to clean or maintain social distancing.

Handwashing

- We will reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among teachers, students, and staff.
- We have made hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol available for teachers, staff, and students. Hand sanitizers are placed near frequently touched surfaces (e.g., water fountains, doors, shared equipment) and areas where soap and water are not readily available (e.g., cafeterias, classrooms, gyms).
- We promote hand hygiene throughout the school by placing visual cues such as handwashing posters, stickers, and other materials in highly visible areas.

Vaccinations

- We will continue to coordinate with the Highland County Health Department to provide vaccinations and release time to our staff.
- We will continue to coordinate with the Highland County Health Department to provide vaccinations to our students.

Continuity of Services

This plan was established to help students advance and make up for any learning that may have been lost or delayed because of the coronavirus pandemic. The plan was established to meet the needs of students that could include, but are not limited to, ending the school year later than scheduled, beginning the new year early, extending the school day, or offering summer programs.

In partial fulfillment the Lynchburg-Clay Local School District has decided to offer a summer learning program. Below are specific details regarding this summer learning program.

Program Summary:

The Lynchburg-Clay Summer Learning Program is for students in grades K-5. Using student data, those who are identified with the most significant needs in reading and mathematics will be invited to participate. This program will be Monday through Thursday beginning June 7, 2021 and ending on July 1, 2021. Each day, students will arrive between 8:45 - 9:00 am and depart at 12:00 pm. Breakfast will be served to students each day and lunch will be provided as a “to go” option as students depart. Each day, all students will receive intensive individualized instruction in both reading and math. This instruction will target the skill deficits identified by student data.

How will the district identify the students invited?

The most current student data will be used to determine which students have been most significantly impacted by the pandemic. This data includes, but is not limited to:

- MAP data
- Fluency data
- Lexia Core 5 data
- Star Reader data
- Curriculum and classroom assessments
- Response to Intervention data

Using these data points, we will create a list of students with the most significant needs prioritizing reading and mathematics in grades K-5. This data will also determine which academic content standards will be addressed at each grade level. Response to Intervention data will be used to determine which types of interventions are working with students and need to be continued during this extended learning period.

How will the district identify the needs of the students?

Using the data collected, teachers will prioritize learning standards to be taught and will obtain pretest and posttest data to ensure student growth. Interventions provided to students during the regular academic year will continue and be progress monitored. Instruction will be differentiated to meet the needs of all students. Each grade level will determine measurable objectives and clear instructional plans will be developed that focus on targeted deficits in reading and mathematics.

What resources are available to address student needs?

Students and teachers will use resources provided by the school district. These may include online programs, curriculum materials, technology and educational supplies. In order to overcome the transportation barrier that exists for some families, our district will provide transportation to and from school during the summer learning program to any student who may need it. Students will also be served breakfast each morning and be offered lunch each day. Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds from the federal government will be used to cover the cost of this summer learning program. Social emotional learning needs will be addressed through a partnership with The Counseling Source and our district social worker. Empower Youth, a non-profit organization, will provide food bags for students to take home each week.

How does this summer learning plan align and reinforce our district goals?

Our district goal states that all students will be proficient or exhibit growth as measured by local and state assessments, so that the district's state assessment baseline will increase by five percentage points each year and be at ninety-five percent annually.

By offering this summer learning program, we will be able to begin closing the gaps in learning due to the pandemic. Going forward, we understand that these gaps may not be closed during this summer learning program, but we are confident that this is the first step in the long process of recovery from the pandemic and will continue to move our district forward toward our goal.

Continuity of Service

During the pandemic the administrative team has been in electronic communication with stakeholders including: teachers, parents, students, support personnel, transportation supervisor, food service supervisor and technology technician. We completed a needs assessment of where we felt we could do a better job serving the needs of our students, staff and community. We based our needs on curriculum/instruction, facilities, mental health and security.

We are addressing student learning gaps by implementing e-learning plans, including digital and distance learning options as feasible and appropriate. We are using data from online programs such as Lexia Core 5 Reading and Google Classroom to address the gaps in learning.

We hired personnel to assist in the cleaning and disinfecting of facilities as well as personnel to assist with new regulations as brought to our cafeteria through our local health department.

The Lynchburg-Clay Local School District kept open its doors during the 2020-2021 school year. With the hiring of a district social worker to meet the social, emotional and mental needs of our students we will hire a second social worker for the 2021-2022 school year.

A good remote learning and in person learning environment must have communication. Without being able to physically interact with all of our students we have to be present in as many other ways as possible. ESSER funds are being used to field questions as they come in and check in on how individual students are doing. We are also using the funds to provide personal feedback on completed work to create a collaborative approach to learning.

Furthermore, we are building our technology infrastructure. We are doing this by providing students (6-12) with Chromebooks to be used at home and while at school. Teachers will be afforded the opportunity to use new technology such as touch screen interactive flat panels, desktop systems, and increased wireless internet access to meet the needs of our students while closing the gap in learning the pandemic has caused. Because so many students were having to use our district wireless access during the pandemic, we found our access inadequate so that will be updated as well. We give access to our grounds during traditional non-school hours for student wireless usage. We will use some funds to improve the security of our grounds to monitor the safety and wellbeing of our students.

Use of Federal Funds

To purchase new air handling systems.

To contract a company to install new smart board mounts and boards.

To hire a mental health social worker and director of curriculum for instructional coaching.

To purchase online academic programs.

To purchase Chromebooks and other technology.

Review and Public Input

- Lynchburg-Clay Local School District will review this plan bi-annually through September 30, 2023.
- The public's input is welcome and can be submitted to the Director of Federal programs and during the State and Federal Programs Annual Informational Meeting.

This document is subject to change due to state and local health department guidelines or Governor's orders.