



Lamoille North Supervisory Union

2021-2022 School Year

Introduction

Lamoille North Schools are excited to welcome all students back to full in-person learning, five days per week. Given Vermont's high vaccination rates, we expect to be able to return to many of our more normal routines, opportunities, and school experiences in the year ahead.

As required by the Vermont Agency of Education, we are publishing our 2021-2022 School Reopening Plan on the LNSU website. The purpose of this document is to clarify operations for the upcoming school year in regards to health and safety guidance, specifically pertaining to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Information in this document is based on current [Department of Health](#) and [Agency of Education](#) prevention measures and recommendations from the [Vermont Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics](#). We have also consulted with local medical experts. **As new measures/guidance emerges or changes, the contents of this document will be updated.**

Thank you for your continued support of our LNSU students, staff, and school communities.

Catherine Gallagher, M.Ed.
Superintendent
Lamoille North Supervisory Union

LNSU Goals

1. To protect students, staff, and community members by preventing the spread of the COVID-19 virus and to follow the public health guidance given our COVID-19 context.
2. To protect the learning environment in order to maintain full in-person learning for all our students.
3. To support the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students.
4. To accelerate learning for all students.

COVID-19 Prevention Strategies to be Implemented

Lamoille North Schools will again implement a multi-faceted prevention approach to protect students, staff, and the community in order to maintain full in-person learning in all our schools.

All students, staff, and visitors attending school in person will be expected to:

- Wear masks while indoors until further notice
- Wear masks on school buses
- Wash hands regularly
- Quarantine or isolate when symptomatic

We will not be doing any formal health screening at this time and ask that families monitor the health and well-being of children and keep the child home from school if the child demonstrates any of the following symptoms:

- Fever (100.4 °F or higher) - not controlled by fever reducing medication
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting

This [flowchart](#) is a useful tool to help determine how to address COVID-19 symptoms or exposure. Please contact our district nursing director, Flo Kelley, R.N., with any question pertaining to COVID-19 at 802-851-1347 or fkelly@luhs18.org. **If you or your child have symptoms, even mild ones, contact your health care provider to determine next steps, which may include testing,** even if you are vaccinated or have had COVID-19. Your provider will test you at their office or refer you for testing nearby. Stay home and away from other people while you wait for your results. Learn [what to do if you are sick](#).

We will follow all Vermont Department of Health contact tracing guidelines and will notify all identified close contacts when there is a positive case of COVID-19 in a school. Please read the current guidance [HERE](#).

Our schools will implement the following:

- Physical distance to the extent we can while students are eating
- Maintain proper airflow in our schools and on buses
- Regularly clean and disinfect our schools
- Isolate symptomatic individuals from other staff and students until they are able to go home

****As we learned last school year, conditions related to the spread of the virus are unpredictable. The safety measures in schools are subject to change based upon public health circumstances and changes to public health guidance.***

Athletics & Extracurriculars

We are anticipating at this time that students will be able to access a more normal variety of athletic, performing arts, and extracurricular activities this school year.

Cleaning

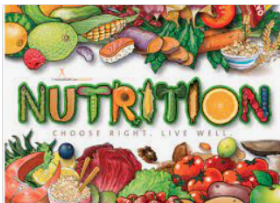
Schools throughout the Lamoille North Supervisory Union will maintain a high standard for regularly cleaning and disinfecting all spaces.

Facial Coverings



Everyone will be required to wear a mask (while indoors) until further notice. This includes all students, staff, and visitors. Masks may be removed for instructional purposes when necessary. We have found that most students prefer their own cloth masks. Disposable masks will be available to those who need a mask.

Food Services



Our schools will continue to offer Universal Meals to all students. Breakfast and lunch are both available at no charge. At this time, schools are working out the logistics around serving school meals. Each school has a unique space, configuration, and staffing structure. We expect there will be some blend of eating in the cafeteria and spreading out into some other spaces. Although minimal guidelines are established by the state, the Vermont Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics strongly [recommends](#) that schools pay special attention to distancing at times when students are eating in groups unmasked. Schools will work with schedules, staffing, and spacing restrictions to limit the number of students in common areas when possible and encourage classroom or outdoor eating when weather permits for students.

Hygiene

Students and staff will be reminded about the importance of proper handwashing. We will place hand sanitizer throughout the building and ensure all our bathrooms are properly stocked with soap and towels. Signs will be placed throughout the building to reinforce good hygiene practices.

Music

We have been informed that we will not be receiving an advisory memo from the Agency of Education regarding music classes and any mitigation measures at this time. Music classes will begin the year following the guidelines set forth in the International Coalition Performing Arts Aerosol Study Update Guidelines 8/12/21. You can find the guidelines [HERE](#).

Outdoor Recess



Face masks will not be required outside. All playground equipment and regular outdoor activities will be accessible to students without physical distancing requirements. Students will be prompted to wash their hands before and after recess.

Short-term Virtual Learning

We are excited to be back in school and provide learning five days a week to all students. While we are thrilled by this return to relative normal we must also recognize that we are still in a pandemic and be prepared for the possibility that we may need short-term closures, by school or cohort.

Platforms. Teachers and students use learning management systems and Google applications to communicate, deliver, and manage learning experiences, and submit student work. The elementary schools' learning management system is Google Classroom/SeeSaw and the Middle and High schools utilize Schoology.

At the elementary level, families are encouraged to look at Google Classroom with their students to see the work they have shared with their teacher. Communication about the learning expectations and requirements will most likely be shared directly with parents/guardians from teacher communication via email or newsletter.

Middle and high school families are encouraged to regularly review courses in Schoology. Communication about learning expectations and requirements will most likely be shared directly with students.

Principals/Teachers will communicate with you in the event an entire classroom needs to learn outside of the building for a short period of time. Similarly, principals/teachers will communicate about assignments that can be accessed on the learning management platforms if your student is out for a few days for any reason, and assuming they are not too sick to do any work.

Transportation



In accordance with the CDC, **wearing a mask on a school bus is required.**

Seats will be assigned to students for purposes of contact tracing as needed.

Use of School Facilities

The public use of facilities after school hours is now allowed in accordance with the public health guidance as long as our safety and prevention protocols are met.

Visitors

Visitors will be allowed on a limited basis in school buildings in accordance with individual school procedures. All visitors will be required to wear a facial covering (mask) and sign into spaces for the purpose of contact tracing. Visitors should not come to school if they are experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19 or if they have been exposed to a positive individual.

***As a last note, all building principals will be sending out specific information to students and families about protocols and procedures they have in place for their schools. Although the rules/policies will not be different, some procedures may vary from school to school depending on available space and numbers of students enrolled in each school.**

Resources:

[American Academy of Pediatrics](#)

[AOE Instructional Reopening for Fall 2021](#)

[CDC Face Mask Requirement Public Transportation](#)

[CDC Recommendations for Reopening Schools](#)

[Child Care and Out of School Programs](#)

[Memo: AOE/VDH COVID-19 Prevention Measures for Fall 2021](#)

[Vaccine Walk-In Clinics](#)

[Vermont Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics](#)

[Vermont Department of Health PK-12 Schools](#)