

## Updated Layers of Protection for COVID-19

The most recent update to the [Washington State Department of Health \(DOH\) requirements](#) for schools continues a shift in the management of the impact that COVID-19 has on the experiences of young people in our schools. The Department of Health continues to emphasize a layered strategy to address COVID.

LWSD will continue to follow all DOH requirement for the 2022-23 school year. Schools should return to typical operations and engage in enrichment activities. Should conditions change such that Public Health or DOH recommend or require a return to more restrictive approaches, LWSD would adapt these strategies accordingly.

REQUIREMENTS	
<b>Vaccination</b>	
	LWSD employees, indoor contractors and volunteers are still subject to vaccination requirements or must have a medical or religious exemption. Weekly testing for exempted individuals is no longer required. All volunteers may return to in-person support. LWSD continues to support the promotion of vaccination clinics for staff and students.
<b>Testing</b>	
	LWSD will continue to have a drive-up testing option at the Support Services Center with hours and appointment opportunities on the website. Take-home tests will be the primary method of diagnostic testing for staff and students. Testing teams will be available for outbreaks, if needed.
<b>Isolation</b>	
	All students and staff are required to stay home when sick and to isolate for a minimum of 5 days following a positive COVID test ( <a href="#">DOH Decision Tree</a> ).
<b>Isolation in School</b>	
	Schools will continue to need an isolation room for anyone that is symptomatic while at school. This can now be done in a variety of ways. If space allows, Health Rooms can be divided into two sections, one for regular visits and one for symptomatic. If space does not allow, then a separate room is needed. Outside space can also be used, if weather, supervision and privacy permit. Masks are required while supervising students with symptoms.
<b>Positive Cases</b>	
	LWSD will continue to report all positive cases to public health through the SharePoint Data system. All positive cases will be managed through the Case Management Team. There is no longer a requirement to track symptomatic cases.
<b>Notification</b>	
	LWSD will continue to notify staff and students/families of positive cases through the COVID dashboard. In addition, Case Managers will notify staff and union representatives as required by L&I.
STRATEGIES	
<b>Hand Hygiene</b>	
	It is important to continue to remind students about good hand hygiene practices. Schools should maintain signage and students should be encouraged and supported in frequent hand washing and sanitizing. Hand sanitizer may be used but is not required after using shared objects.
<b>Cleaning</b>	
	LWSD is continuing to maintain existing cleaning practices.
<b>Ventilation</b>	
	LWSD is continuing to maintain ventilation practices.
<b>Masking</b>	
	Masks are required for all persons entering health or isolation rooms. LWSD will continue to maintain a supply of masks for students or staff. LWSD respects student and staff choice for masking in other areas.
<b>Physical Distancing</b>	
	Physical distancing is no longer a strategy from Department of Health for schools.

Assemblies/ Gatherings	Schools may hold student gatherings during the school day.
Family Evening Events	Schools may hold family events in the evening.
Staff	Staff meetings may be held either in-person or remotely. No restrictions on staff lounge.
<b>Other</b>	
Field Trips	Field trips, except for international travel, are now allowed without restriction.
Volunteers	Approved volunteers are welcomed in LWSD schools. Volunteers are subject to the state vaccination requirement.
Guest Speakers	Guest speakers are subject to the state vaccination requirement as well. If a guest speaker is not currently an approved volunteer, then the hosting school will need to verify the speaker's vaccination status in advance of an appearance.
After-School Activities	Schools are open for building use and groups are subject to comply with COVID safety protocols as part of the building use agreement.
PE/Music	PE and music classes may return to typical operations.