

LAFAYETTE
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

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In-Person Learning Plan





District Level

In-Person Learning Overview

This document was created with the guidance of the Minnesota Department of Education, and from requirements made by Minnesota government officials regarding the COVID-19 virus.

In line with Nicollet County data Lafayette Public Charter School will implement an in-person learning scenario for the 2020-2021 school year, Lafayette Public Charter School intends to provide instruction to students in all grades in house. Although it may not be possible to maintain social distancing in all situations, LCS will try to minimize close contact and follow required and recommended Minnesota Department of health guidelines. Under the in-person learning model, LCS will go back to inhouse instruction for all students 5 days per week and instruction will resume using traditional methods as long as we are able to adhere to the guidelines outlined by MDH. Distant learning will be offered to any family that does not feel comfortable participating in the in-person model.

This document outlines details and guidelines for the services Lafayette Public Charter School will provide under the in-person learning model including, resources available to families, insights on how current policies will function, who to contact in the event of changes to situations or questions, and tips on how to best support students and families during this time.

	In-Learning Model
Schedule 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All Grade Level: 5 day of instruction in person per week. ● Students engage in traditional instruction as long as students and staff are able to adhere to MDH/CDC guidelines
Courses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review of last year's content will be a priority to fill in learning gaps ● Time for interventions may be increased ● Online platforms will be taught, practiced, and embedded into instruction to make transitions to other learning models easier if needed.
Food Service 	Meal services will be provided daily for students. Students will be social distanced per MDH/CDC guidelines.
Transportation 	Transportation will be available. Distance will be maintained as much as possible. School drop-off location will be at the south door and parents are to remain in their vehicle. If parents need to enter the building please call the office for further information.
Health Protocols	Staff will guide students on health and safety protocols following MDH/CDC guidelines. All staff and students (K-8) will be required to wear face coverings especially since social distancing is not always possible. Students who have medical or other health conditions, disabilities, or mental health, developmental, or behavioral needs that make it difficult to tolerate wearing a face covering are exempt from wearing a face covering under Governor's Executive Order 20-81. Families are encouraged to provide their own masks. The school will have masks for emergencies only. If you are unable to afford or obtain a mask please contact the office.

Monitoring and Excluding for Illness (updated as of 8-19-20)

Students and families of Lafayette Public Charter School should complete a short screening at home before entering the school building or bus/van. If your child has any of the following symptoms that indicates a possible illness, it may decrease the student's ability to learn and also put them at risk for spreading illness to others. If your student is experiencing any COVID like symptoms, we ask that they stay home. Symptoms of COVID include the following:

- *Cough, new onset*
- *Shortness of breath*

It could also include two of the following:

- *Fever, 100.4 or higher*
- *Chills*
- *Muscle pain*
- *Sore throat*
- *Loss of sense of smell or taste*
- *Gastrointestinal symptoms of diarrhea, vomiting, or nausea*

Staff will be required to complete daily self-reporting to verify that they are asymptomatic when entering the school building.

Potential screening questions could include but are not limited to:

- Have you experienced a new cough?
- Have you recently experienced shortness of breath?
- Have you recently experienced any diarrhea, vomiting, or nausea?
- Have you had a fever of 100 or higher within the last 24 hours?
- Have you recently experienced loss of taste or smell?
- Have you taken any ibuprofen or other medication within the last 4-6 hours?

If a student is experiencing COVID like symptoms upon arrival or begins experiencing COVID like symptoms during the school day, they will immediately report to an isolation room. Parents will be called and asked to pick up their student immediately. Other students from the same family are expected to do the same if COVID symptoms are present. If a staff member or student has a new symptom with no other diagnosis to explain it, they should stay home and talk to their health care provider (HCP) about testing for COVID-19.

Exclusion Guidance:

For people (students or staff) who have a positive laboratory test for COVID-19, OR people with a negative test result but have symptoms with no other diagnosis, OR people with a COVID-19 diagnosis without a lab test, OR people with symptoms of COVID-19 without a medical evaluation:

Stay home at least 14 days since symptoms first appeared AND no fever for at least 3 days without medication AND improvement of symptoms.

Siblings and household members stay home for 14 days.

For people with other diagnoses (such as norovirus, strep throat) that explain the symptoms, or when a health care provider says symptoms are connected to a pre-existing condition, stay home until symptoms have improved and follow return guidance from the health care provider or the Infectious Diseases in Childcare Settings and Schools Manual. Siblings and household members do not need to stay home.

Hygiene Practices

Healthy hygiene practices are the first line of defense in protecting staff and students against COVID-19 and other illnesses. The following procedures will be enforced in order to uphold good hygiene and prevent the transmission of illness.

Frequent hand washing will be done throughout the school day. Students and staff will be asked to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds and correct hand washing procedures will be taught and practiced. Students will be asked to wash hands especially after blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing. Hand washing will also be required before eating and upon entering any new classroom. Additional breaks will be provided to allow for handwashing to take place throughout the school day. If soap and water are not available, sanitizer with at least a 60% alcohol content will be provided to staff and students.

Staff will guide students on health and safety protocols following MDH/CDC guidelines. All staff and students will be required to wear face coverings especially since social distancing is not always possible. Students who have medical or other health conditions, disabilities, or mental health, developmental, or behavioral needs that make it difficult to tolerate wearing a face covering are exempt from wearing a face covering under Governor's Executive Order 20-81. Families are encouraged to provide their own masks. The school will have masks for emergencies only. If you are unable to afford or obtain a mask please contact the office.

For settings that require more close human contact, additional PPE will be provided and may include face shields, gloves and gowns. Need for equipment will be monitored and adjusted on a case by case basis.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Thorough cleaning and disinfecting measures will be taken to maintain that all physical spaces, equipment, and materials that staff and students come into contact with are sanitized and safe for use. Daily sanitizing will especially be implemented in high traffic/touch areas including but not limited to doorknobs, handles, fixtures, etc. All areas will be cleaned with a medical grade sanitizing solution. A schedule will be created to ensure more frequent cleaning of restrooms throughout the building due to high usage during the school day.

Water and Ventilation Systems

Students and staff will be prohibited from drinking directly from the water fountains. They will however be encouraged to bring their own water bottles to be filled.

Social Distancing Protocols

LCS will implement social distancing strategies when possible to help reduce contact between individuals. Due to increased capacity under the in-person instructional model, this may not always be possible. Adjustments will be made to seating arrangements within classrooms as well as on school buses to distance students as much as possible. Signs will be posted to remind both staff and students to maintain a 6 foot distance. Floor markings will be used as a visual reminder as well.

Under the in-person instructional model co-mingling between groups will be minimized when possible. Students will eat meals in the cafeteria and accommodations will be made as needed. These are general precautions and practices will be customized to meet the needs of LCS.

Other social distancing precautions include designating entrances based on transportation, staggered arrival and dismissal times, mapping of traffic patterns within the school building, and making the scheduling of student and staff groupings as static as possible. More information about arrival and dismissal times and designated entrances will be given at Open House.

To minimize the risk of transmission, permission for volunteers and visitors to be admitted into the building will be limited.

Protecting Vulnerable Populations

As communicated by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, additional precautions need to be taken for select populations in order to protect against infection. As a result, LCS will offer a full time distance learning option for students who need to take extra precautions due to medical or other

potential risk factors. A video conferencing platform will be used to allow these students to tune into and participate in classroom lessons via Google Meet. Lessons will be recorded and posted if your child is unable to attend. Work completion will be monitored by the teacher and assignments will be submitted digitally or on paper determined by the teacher.

Handling of Suspected or Confirmed Cases

In cooperation with Nicollet County Health and Human Services, LCS will closely monitor any developments related to COVID cases, exposures, hospitalizations, and any other scenarios that may enact change to the school's operation. In the event that there is an increase in cases impacting the school, LCS will coordinate with NCH to implement the health and safety protocols to ensure the safety of the school population. This may include the closure of school facilities until they are deemed safe to reopen. It may also require an adjustment in instructional delivery.

Technology

- If a student is distant learning during the in-person model and needs access to technology, please call the office.

Nutrition

- Meals will be provided to students daily taking into consideration the MDH/CDC guidance.

Transportation

- Transportation will be provided to students. Students will maintain as much distance as possible unless they are from the same household.

Mental Health Services

- The teachers will host weekly lessons for students focusing on social-emotional topics, and/or COVID related issues and their effects.

Lafayette Public Charter School is committed to providing students with the best educational experience possible while also maintaining a safe learning environment for staff and students. Due to the fluidity of COVID-19, the method of instruction could fluctuate throughout the school year and families and staff should be prepared to adjust when needed.

Contact Information

Lafayette Public Charter School Website www.lafayettecharter.k12.mn.us

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