



Keeping Our Students Safe



The Laurens County School District continues to be in constant contact with state and local officials regarding the safe operation of schools. We thank you for your patience as we have tried to wait until we could receive the most up-to-date, reliable information on which to base these very important decisions. The school district's planning and decisions are made with the health and safety of students as its highest priority and will be sufficiently flexible to adapt if the current information should change.

Mask Mandate Decision Effective September 7, 2021

Due to the rise in Covid positivity rates in the schools and community, we have decided it is time to require masks for anyone entering LCSS buildings regardless of vaccination status. It is our desire for this measure to extend until there is great success within the community and schools in our fight against the spread of Covid. Please understand that this is for the safety of everyone. Students and teachers will be required to wear masks when consistently maintaining 6 feet of spacing is not permitted. LCSS will also move to a Modified Quarantine Protocol which is listed below. This protocol is only for close contact that occurs within the school setting. Any close contact that occurs outside of the school setting will be guided by DPH regulations.

How are Direct Contact and Close Contact Defined?

Direct Contact: Someone who has been in direct contact with the sweat, blood, saliva etc. of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 (e.g., being coughed on, kissing, hugging, playing close-contact sports, etc.), lives in same household (with discretion), riding in same vehicle, etc.

Close Contact: Someone in the school setting who has been within 3 feet of a positive case for 15 cumulative minutes over the previous 24 hours. Community-based close contact occurs when someone has been within 6 feet of a positive case for 15 cumulative minutes over the previous 24 hours.

Students identified as a direct contact will be required to quarantine for 10 days from the date of last exposure. Students who provide proof of vaccination or have clinically recovered from COVID within the past 90 days may attend school and school events (if possible, should wear a mask at events) as long as they remain asymptomatic during the 10-day quarantine period.

Students identified as a close contact in the school setting will be allowed to continue attending school and participate in school sponsored activities if the student remains asymptomatic during their 10-day quarantine period. Parents/ Guardians will be notified by phone call of the potential exposure. The student is quarantined for all other community events until the quarantine period is over.

What do I do if my student is symptomatic?

Students who have been exposed to a positive person and are symptomatic should consult their physician and remain isolated for 10 days from start of symptoms. Household members should take mitigation measures such as masking and physical distancing to prevent the potential spread of COVID-19 within their home. If a COVID-19 test is done, parents should report results to the school. If positive results are received, the isolation guidelines for positive persons and identification of those who may have been directly exposed/close contacts should be followed. The use of an over-the-counter test to test out of quarantine will not be allowed.