



August 24, 2021

Dear LCS Community,

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of the LCS Leadership Team and LCS School Board as we have been planning the opening of our school in light of the ongoing COVID 19 situation. We are grateful that our families took the opportunity to provide feedback. This information provided helpful insight and data that was evaluated in light of the current situation and recommendations.

We desire for our students to have in-person instruction every day, and meeting this goal along with the health and safety of our faculty/staff and students remain our top priority as we enter another school year. Having our faculty, staff, students, and parents together is vital to our community, and remaining steadfast in the pursuit of excellence in education is our most paramount call and mission.

Today, we would like to inform you of our 2021-2022 framework for reopening our school. **Please note that this matter is highly fluid as our new NYS Governor has made strong statements regarding her plans for NYS school personnel, students, and visitors.**

With full support from the School Board, LCS is adopting a tiered approach to our mask policy based on CDC transmission rates which is in accordance with the NYS guidance for schools.

Please see the following points regarding our plan and protocols:

Mask Protocols

- **LCS will not require masks to be worn in the building or outdoors. Whenever possible we will be socially distanced at 3 feet indoors. However, if the CDC indicates that Albany County is at a high transmission rate of COVID-19 infection, LCS will require masks to be worn in the building ([see this link to CDC website](#)).**

- LCS encourages unvaccinated individuals to wear masks while in the school building, regardless of transmission rates.
- LCS will continue to monitor transmission rates as reported on the CDC website. When transmission rates shift from one level to another (either higher or lower), the school will notify our community of a change in mask requirements via email from the school.
- In the event that NYS provides mandatory protocols for schools to remain open, LCS will follow the required protocols.
- *Please note that mask requirements at LCS may differ on your child's bus ride which operates under the jurisdiction of your local school district.*

Daily Operations

- LCS will continue to have parents drop off students outside in the mornings and utilize PikMyKid for dismissal each afternoon.
- LCS will space students and faculty 3 feet apart whenever possible. When in a High Transmission rate, students may remove their masks when they are socially distanced.
- LCS will continue to utilize daily hand hygiene and sanitizing measures.
- Per the CDC, LCS will not be conducting daily screening measures for faculty, staff, students, and visitors to campus.

Health Screening & Reporting

- Per the CDC, LCS urges any ill student to stay home from school. If a student remains home due to illness, he/she may return to school after he/she is symptom free for 24 hours.
- LCS will continue to work with and report confirmed COVID-19 cases to the Albany County Department of Health.
- LCS will continue to follow quarantine practices consistent with the NYSDOH protocols from June 2021:
 - Infected individuals (these include persons who have tested positive)
 - Complete a 10-day quarantine per your local health department
 - Provide the health department ***release from isolation paperwork*** to the school nurse prior to return to campus.
- Exposed individuals (these include persons who have been within 6 feet of an infected person for 15 or more minutes)
 - **If vaccinated**: No quarantine necessary.

- **If unvaccinated:** Complete a 10-day quarantine per your local health department.
- Distance Learning will be available only to students who are in mandatory quarantine.

Visiting Campus & Campus Events

- LCS will continue to host parents on campus by appointment and in small groups when possible during regular school hours.
- LCS is eager to continue special on campus activities which are often larger in capacity. These activities are also subject to mask requirements, regardless of transmission rates and may require modification to maintain the health and wellness of our students.

Thank you for your valued partnership, for your commitment to our school and community of students, and for your grace and support in the year ahead.

In Service to Him,

LCS Leadership Team & LCS School Board