

Amendment to the Lisbon Grade School Parent/Student Handbook

LGS Start of School Plan 2021

Full In-Person Learning with Temporary Remote Learning for Students Mandated to Quarantine

On Wednesday, August 4, 2021, Governor Pritzker announced that, effective immediately, all Illinois schools (public and private) and daycares **must** follow the CDC's guidance on universal masking. Accordingly, all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to PK-12 schools must wear a mask while indoors (and on school transportation), regardless of vaccination status. As with previous mask mandate orders, individuals who cannot wear a mask because of an ADA disability are exempt from this requirement with a doctor's note.

School districts that do not comply with this new gubernatorial order potentially risk liability and denial of liability insurance coverage. Additionally, ISBE could remove recognition status for any school districts not following the Governor's order.

According to ISBE, remote instruction **must** be provided for students who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine **or** who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine, only while they are under quarantine consistent with guidance or requirements from a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health. School districts are not required to provide remote instruction to students who refuse to come to school because of the universal masking requirement.

Remote Learning

Remote learning will be for mandatory quarantine only. The type of remote learning will be a case by case basis depending on the length of quarantine and the age of student.

Face Coverings

- 1) All teachers, staff, students, and visitors to PK-12 schools must wear a mask while indoors (and on school transportation), regardless of vaccination status.
- 2) The district does not have a policy requiring students and staff to disclose their COVID-19 vaccination status. Parents, students and staff may wish to voluntarily disclose their vaccination status to avoid a mandatory quarantine for close contact with a COVID-positive person.
- 3) This directive is subject to change.

Bus Transportation

- 1) The CDC/IDPH requires masks for all students/staff on any school district transportation – including buses
- 2) Students will not be allowed to ride a school bus other than the one they qualify for based on where they live/daycare needs.

Self-Certification

Lisbon Grade School will continue to send out daily reminders via Blackboard for parents to self-certify their children before leaving for school. Please call the school before 9am if your child will be absent. If a child is sick with a new onset of COVID-19 symptoms, siblings will need to remain home until your child is tested for COVID-19 and provides the school with a negative test result. Once IDPH provides updated exclusion guidance, we will make it available.

Walkers/Drop-off-Morning Arrival

Please have students arrive no earlier than 8:10. We will begin letting students into the building at 8:15 when the first bell rings. Parents, please stay in your vehicles. We ask that contact still be limited.

Entering the Building

- 1) Students will be let into the building at 8:15 when the bell rings. Please do not arrive early to avoid students congregating outside.
- 2) Students will enter the building and move immediately to their home room.
- 3) Jr High students will be dismissed by class to their lockers to put their backpacks and coats away.
- 4) The school has the authority to take temperatures randomly or on an as needed basis when entering the building or throughout the school day.

Lunch

- 1) Students will be seated two per 8-foot table in the gym for lunch.
- 2) It is a possibility that the classroom teacher will take their class outside to eat lunch.

Recess

- 1) Recess will be held outside as much as possible. Students will practice social distancing.
- 2) In the event indoor recess is necessary, students will be provided with other options for indoor recess. Social distancing will be followed.

Dismissal

- 1) **All** kindergarten and first grade students along with walkers and pick-ups will be dismissed 5 min prior to the dismissal bell. K & 1st grade walkers/pick-ups will dismiss first out the front doors, bus riders out the south gym door. Then, 2nd -8th grade walkers/pick-ups will dismiss out the front and north doors.
- 2) At the dismissal bell. 2nd-8th grade bus riders will be dismissed to the buses through the south gym door. Buses will park for boarding on the south side of the school to allow more room for parent pick up traffic.
- 3) Staff will be available to assist during dismissal.
- 4) Parents will not be allowed to park/turn around in the gravel area on the south side of the school.
- 5) We ask that parents stay in their vehicles during dismissal to limit social gatherings.
- 6) **PLEASE FOLLOW THE TRAFFIC FLOW SIGNAGE AND ONLY ENTER THE SCHOOL PARKING LOT THROUGH THE SOUTH ENTRANCE.**

Furniture/Classrooms

- 1) Desks shall be spread throughout the classroom to the greatest extent possible.
- 2) Jr High students will still move from class to class during staggered times to limit the number of students in the hallway. Classrooms will be sanitized during student transitions.

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- 3) Small group work will be limited but if utilized furniture will be sanitized between groups.
- 4) Students may not share materials. Parents must label all student materials.
- 5) Water filling stations will be accessible to students. However, students should bring their own personal water bottles to refill throughout the day. Students will be able to access their water bottles as needed.
- 6) Classrooms will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized daily.

Specials

- 1) PE – Outdoor PE classes will be utilized as much as possible. Social distancing will be enforced. If PE must be indoors, activities will be designed for students so that they are socially distant
- 2) Jr High students will change into PE clothes.
- 3) All students MUST change into gym shoes for inside activities.
- 4) Technology – Devices will not be shared to the greatest extent possible but will be cleaned after student use if it must be shared.
- 5) Band - Participants and the teacher will practice social distancing. Band may possibly be held outside.
- 6) Library – Books will still be available to be checked out. When books are returned, they will be kept separate for over 24 hours before they return to circulation.

Special Education

Normal procedures will be in effect. The teacher will have to disinfect the surfaces after each use.

Speech/Social Work Services

Speech/Social Work services will be provided to students while in school during the day. If remote learning is necessary, these services may be provided remotely.

Response to Intervention (RtI)

The teacher will have to disinfect the surfaces after each student use. The teacher may also push into classrooms to help address student needs.

Bathrooms

- 1) All classes will take scheduled bathroom breaks.
- 2) Permission will be given to use the bathrooms outside of the scheduled break times.
- 3) Bathrooms will be sanitized, especially high traffic areas on a regular basis throughout the day and thoroughly cleaned each night.

Open House, August 23, 2021 from 6:30-7:30

- 1) We will begin in the gym with introductions of staff and some general information.
- 2) Parents will be dismissed to tour classrooms and the school. This is not a time to conference with the teachers.

Athletics

According to the Illinois High School Association, all student-athletes, coaches, officials, game personnel and fans taking part in indoor sporting events will be required to wear masks, with the

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mandate going into effect immediately. The mandate does not apply to outdoor sports, according to the governor's office.

Refusal to Comply with the Mask Mandate

Since the Governor's Order (which has the force and effect of law) requires masks, schools cannot allow students, staff and visitors to violate the mandate. The following measures will be taken in the event that mask wearing is refused at Lisbon Grade School.

For **students** without masks and that do not have a medical exemption from a doctor: Initially the student will be given the option to put on a mask and if needed a mask will be provided. If the student refuses to wear a mask the student will not be able to attend classes or events. The student will not be forced to wear a mask in opposition to their parent's directive. The student will be required to remain in a safe and supervised area (with social distancing) until a parent is contacted and reliable transportation home can be arranged. Note, this is not a disciplinary removal from school. In most cases it will be an unexcused absence due to the parent failing to follow the rules in sending their child to school.

For **staff** without masks: Staff should be given the choice of complying with the mask mandate or leaving the building.

For school **visitors** without masks: Initially the visitor will be given the option to put on a mask and if needed a mask will be provided. If the individual refuses to wear a mask they will not be allowed to enter the building.

This guidance has been provided by the following:

Brian Schwartz

Deputy Director & General Counsel, Illinois Principals Association, Springfield IL

Special Notes

Lisbon Grade School will continue to take mitigation steps to ensure the safety & well-being of students and staff with the implementation of other CDC-recommended health and safety prevention strategies such as:

- 1) Social distancing of at least 3 feet
- 2) Encouraging parents/guardians to self-check their children daily for COVID symptoms prior to school and keep them (and siblings) home if they display any symptoms
- 3) Mandatory quarantines for COVID-positive students and staff
- 4) Contacts who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student do not require quarantine as long as both the case and the contact were consistently masked.
- 5) Mandatory quarantines for unvaccinated individuals with any COVID symptom(s) until a negative test is provided.
- 6) Encouraging and practicing proper hygiene
- 7) Practicing proper cleaning and disinfection of learning spaces
- 8) Acknowledging that CDC guidance recommends that age eligible students (currently age 12 and older) receive a COVID-19 vaccine.
- 9) As faculty, staff, and students are required to wear face coverings in school the following Heat Policy will be used:

If room temperatures are expected to be below 85, the school will remain in session

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If room temperatures are expected to be between 85-88*, then the humidity level and heat index will be taken into account.

If room temperatures are expected to be 88 or above, then the school will dismiss early.

*This plan can be adjusted if new guidelines are received by the state of Illinois or if Lisbon Grade School feels that some guidelines need to be adjusted to best meet the needs of the students.

*If the current state mandate requiring face coverings is lifted or expires without being renewed, Lisbon Grade School will follow the LGS Start to School Plan, stating face coverings are optional, that was developed prior to the August 4, 2021 Governor mandate. This plan will go into effect immediately without the need of board approval.

ESSER III FUNDS PLAN

Lisbon Grade school plans to use ESSER III funds to purchase more technology such as 42 Chromebooks for our fourth grade class and mobile computer lab and seven additional tablets so each classroom will have complete sets of tablets for kindergarten through third grade and fourth grade through 8th grade will have complete sets of Chromebooks. We will then be 1:1 as a whole, which will be beneficial in the event that we must move to remote learning or individual students must remote learn due to quarantine. ESSER III funds will also be used to pay a portion (20%) of our current intervention teacher's salary to aid in learning loss due to COVID-19. A small portion of the remaining ESSER III money will be used for purchasing disinfectant supplies for the safety of the students and staff at school.