



West Liberty-Salem Local School District

2022-2023 School Plan

August 13, 2021

Hello Families,

We want to welcome you to the 2022-2023 school year. For those students and their families who have attended WL-S the last couple of years, you certainly understand the impact the COVID pandemic has had on education and our procedures during the school day. As we begin the third school year with COVID among us, we want to reach out to families, students, and staff to communicate important updates to the procedures and guidance involving COVID – 19 and how it may impact our school year.

WL-S remains committed to providing a safe and high-quality learning environment for our students. The district will continue to provide traditional, in-person instruction for the 2022-2023 school year. We will continue to work directly with the Champaign County Health Department (CCHD) and other area organizations to ensure that we implement the best procedures to lower the risk COVID spread to our students and staff.

Plan Assumptions

- Coronavirus will continue to impact our community and district for the 2022-2023 school year.
- The district will continue to respond responsibly to levels of spread of the coronavirus or any other communicable disease based on data provided State and/or local health agencies.
- The district will maintain traditional instruction unless required to limit or stop in-person instruction by the health department.

Guiding Principles

We will all need to do our part as a school and community to have a successful school year. These general principles will guide us as we move forward to opening the 2022-2023 school year at WL-S:

- Everyone is responsible to know their own health risks or those of their children to diseases like COVID.
- WL-S encourages students and staff to take reasonable measures to limit the risk of spread of COVID. This includes:
 1. Up to date vaccinations to prevent COVID.
 2. Wearing a mask if you have been exposed to COVID or are indoors.
 3. Isolating if you have Covid for 5 days from the date when symptoms first began, or you were tested. Returning to work or school on Day 6 if you are wearing a mask.
- WL-S will be transparent with all our stakeholders. Some level of risk will always be present when students and employees occupy our facilities.

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- This plan will be re-evaluated throughout the 2022-2023 school year as is necessary to respond to changes in COVID and how it is impacting our community.

Masking

As of now, masks are not required. Masks will also not be required on school busses. Masks should be considered as another layer of protection if a student or staff member has an increased risk of exposure or any increased health risks.

Vaccinations

Vaccinations are **highly recommended** for all children and adults as directed by the CDC or Ohio Department of Health. Vaccinations offer the best layer of protection against COVID. Vaccinations are available through the health department, local pharmacies, doctor offices, and, at certain times, at our WL-S/CHWP school-based health clinic.

Quarantining and Isolation

The district is no longer required to track close contacts that occur at the school due to a positive case. Therefore, Quarantining for this school year will only occur if the Local Health Department issues the order. Isolation will occur for any student or staff member that tests positive for COVID. Isolation is now 5 days after the first symptom or day of testing. A student or staff member may return to school on Day 6 of isolation if they wear a mask. If the student or staff member have a reason that they cannot wear a mask, they must isolate for 10 days.

Quarantining and Isolation Guidelines

1. COVID Positive

A. 5 days isolation from the start of symptoms. If no symptoms, from the date of the test. Return to work/school on day 6 if no symptoms and must wear a mask until day 10.

B. If an individual has a mask exemption or refuses to wear a mask they must isolate until day 10.

2. Close Contact

A. Close contacts will no longer be tracked by the school district. Therefore, there will be no mask requirement, initiated by the school district, for someone who has had close exposure to a COVID case.

- This would include a student seated next to a student with COVID in a classroom, at lunch, etc.
- The district does encourage all students that feel they may be a close contact to take measures

they feel are appropriate to limit the spread of COVID, such as wearing a mask for 10 days when the risk of spread has increased.



B. The Health Department may still require isolation and quarantining of family members and other close contacts if a positive case should occur. The health department will communicate this directly to the family and close contacts involved.

3. Athletics and OHSA Mask to Stay - Test to Play

A. We will follow the OHSA Mask to Stay - Test to Play guidelines for participation in athletics. Asymptomatic close contacts (CC) in a school/team environment may continue to participate in extracurricular activities if they:

1. Wear a mask when able. This includes wearing a mask during transportation, such as traveling on a team bus to and from games; while in locker rooms; while sitting or standing on the sidelines; and any time the mask will not interfere with breathing, the activity in which they are participating, or create a safety hazard.
2. Test on initial notification of exposure to COVID-19. (Day 1 or before next team event)
3. Test again, one time, between days 5-7. If he/she receive a 2nd negative test result and are still symptom free, then he/she may return to normal activities on Day 8, but they must continue to monitor symptoms until Day 14.
4. Coaches should do health checks for all students under quarantine for 14 days that have been identified as close contacts. This would include taking his/her temperature and asking them if they have any COVID symptoms. This will be important to protect the team and the ability to compete. Coaches should see the Athletic Director if they have any questions or need a symptom checklist and hand-held infrared thermometer.

Cleaning Safety Protocols

Since the Spring of 2020, WL-S has made many improvements and has taken additional precautions to provide as safe of an environment for in-person instruction as possible. We will continue to provide these safety protocols for this school year.

- WL-S will continue to utilize the Cold-Plasma whole-building air purification system that was installed in the spring of 2020 which is 98% effective at removing all microorganisms from circulated air used for heating and cooling of the building. This state-of-the-art system has been approved to also remove the coronavirus from circulated air within the building.
- WL-S will continue to utilize antimicrobial MERV 16 air filters in all return air vents.
- WL-S will continue to use vital-oxide misters and sprayers to safely remove 100% of microbials from common surfaces that are touched by students and staff. We have continued to adjust cleaning protocols in the building, classrooms, and on school busses to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- WL-S has over 100 additional hand sanitizer stations to be used throughout the building before and after almost all activities and transitions throughout the school day, including the playground.
- We may have assigned seats in areas like classrooms and school busses to minimize any possible exposure to a large group.
- Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles to school.

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Board Members

Pat Adams * Ryan Cole * Tim Lamb. * Amy Pratt * Doug Williams



- Students and staff should practice frequent handwashing and sanitation.

Daily Self-Monitoring

Students and staff should monitor their own health daily before coming to school.

Student Illness

- Any student with a fever over 100°F should stay home.
- Any student that has the following symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home from school and should see their primary care provider: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing, chills, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, GI issues (nausea, vomiting or diarrhea)

Student Health Issues That Are NOT Diagnosed as COVID-19

- A student sent home with a fever must stay home until they are fever free without medication for 24 hours AND improvement of all other symptoms (if any) or a documented negative COVID-19 test.
- Any other illnesses or injuries that are not related to fever should be handled in the routine manner according to district policy.

Food Service

- WL-S will not offer Free food services (Breakfast and Lunch) again for the 2022-2023 school year. Therefore, it is very important that families, who feel like they may qualify for Free or Reduced lunch complete the Free and Reduced Lunch Application. Please see the district website or call the school at (937) 465-1075 for more information or if you have questions.
- WL-S will do the following:
 - Encourage students to wash or sanitize their hands prior to and after breakfast and lunch
 - Limit self-service of food products
 - Individual condiments

Visitors/Volunteers

- Visitors and volunteers will be welcomed at WL-S facilities during the 2022-2023 school year. However, reasons for visitation and times of day may be restricted.
- All volunteers are encouraged to be vaccinated and/or wear a mask for everyone's protection.

Transportation

- Students will not be required to wear a mask or facial covering for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Students will sit two or three to a seat, depending on the size/age of the children and the capacity of the bus.

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- Students will be seated with their family members when possible.
- All busses will be cleaned and sanitized between each route.
- Bus windows may be opened, when appropriate, to provide additional ventilation.
- Bus routes and schedules may change for the 2022-2023 school year in response to COVID-19.
- Students will be limited to only one location for morning pick up and only one location (if different) for afternoon drop off. Students will not be able to ride an unassigned bus and parents will be responsible for picking the child up from the school or designated drop off location in the event of a temporary change. We have seen major improvements in students getting to the correct bus and correct drop-off location since beginning this policy during COVID. We plan to continue to utilize this method in the future.

Possible Instruction Models

Although West Liberty-Salem is planning to provide in-person campus instruction for the coming school year, the district is prepared to move to a Hybrid (every-other day) or distance learning model in the event of an emergency or health related event like COVID. If this were to occur, the Superintendent and the Board of Education will determine if any modification to our regular in-person instruction is necessary. Every attempt will be made to provide families adequate notice if it becomes necessary to move to hybrid or remote learning.