

LAKE HAMILTON IS HERE *for* YOU

Frequently Asked Questions: Updated July 29, 2020 (Updated FAQ information is in red)

When is the first day of school for students?

School is scheduled to begin at Lake Hamilton (1st – 12th grade) on August 24, 2020.
Kindergarten students will begin on August 26, 2020.

If my family travels in August or during the school year, can my child return to school immediately or must he/she quarantine for 14 days first?

The ADH recommends self-quarantine after traveling to any COVID-19 [hot spots](#).

Who will be required to wear face coverings?

Face coverings will be **required for all students in grades K - 12** at times when social distancing of six feet or more cannot be assured. For example, in hallways when students are transitioning between classes and in line for breakfast and lunch. Face coverings may be removed during instructional time in classrooms and at other times when appropriate distancing among students and between students and teachers is achieved. Face coverings may be removed when students are eating and drinking.

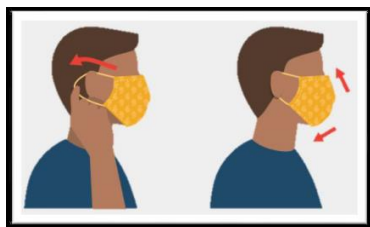
Face coverings will be **required** for bus drivers and all student passengers while on any school bus.

Face coverings will be **required** of all employees at all times when social distancing cannot be accomplished. A clear face shield is not a replacement for a face covering but may be used by teachers when appropriate for instruction.

An effective face-covering covers both the mouth and nose at all times.

Exceptions from this requirement for students and employees with specific health or sensory conditions will be considered on a case-by-case basis with appropriate documentation required.

This directive will be enforced until further notice.



LAKE HAMILTON IS HERE *for* YOU

Are face shields allowed?

Face shields are not generally a substitute for face masks. The LHSD does not support the use of a face shield unless worn in conjunction with a face mask. All face coverings should cover both the mouth and nose at all times in order to be effective. Exceptions from this requirement for students and employees with specific health or sensory conditions will be considered on a case-by-case basis with appropriate documentation required.

Will the district provide face coverings for students and staff?

Yes. The LHSD will provide three, reusable/washable cloth masks for staff and students. However, students and employees may use their own appropriate face coverings. Students may not use face coverings which are prohibited by school policy such as bandanas in colors associated with gang activity.

Will my student be able to wear a face covering brought from home?

Yes. As long as the face covering meets [ADH guidelines](#), students may choose to wear a face covering brought from home.

Will school bus and district transportation be provided?

Yes. The district will provide bus transportation for all students. Face coverings will be **required** for bus drivers and all student passengers while riding on any school bus due to the inability to properly distance from others. There may be exceptions for students with health, sensory, or other conditions. This should be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Students should maintain a distance of 6 feet apart while waiting on the bus to arrive.

Can my student do both blended and virtual learning?

No. Parents must choose blended or virtual learning. If a parent chooses virtual learning, their student(s) cannot return to blended learning until the completion of the semester. We will ask parents to make a final choice between blended and virtual for the fall semester by a deadline in July to be announced.

If my child commits to virtual learning during the fall semester, can he/she return to blended learning for the spring semester?

Yes. Parents may choose to have their student return to blended learning at semester. Guidelines will be developed and shared concerning the agreement to participate in virtual school.

How will students socially distance in their classrooms?

In accordance with the ADH directives, efforts will be made to limit close contact between students. The LHSD will limit contact through the following actions:

- Arrange classrooms and other areas to maximize spacing between students and teacher(s) to the extent possible.

LAKE HAMILTON IS HERE *for* YOU

- Amend schedules to conform with social distancing guidelines (stagger lunches, minimize transitions, teachers may go to students instead of students switching to teachers, etc.)

Will students still have elective classes (PE, art, music, guidance, library, etc.) and recess?

Yes. Students will continue to participate in activity/elective classes and enjoy recess. Some activity/elective classes will be set up differently to comply with social distancing protocols. Outdoor play time may be arranged to limit the number of students during a recess. Additionally, playground equipment will be sanitized between groups of students.

If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, what will happen?

In the event an individual tests positive, the LHSD will follow the latest guidance from the ADH. After being in contact with the ADH, the district could close a single school or the entire district to provide time for additional cleaning and sanitation.

Will students and adults be screened daily?

Yes. Parents will be expected to screen their children using this [tool](#) prior to entering any school bus or building. All staff and visitors entering the building will be screened prior to entering the facility/bus. Entry to each building on campus will be limited to admit only essential visitors.

Will students eat breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria?

LHSD schools are planning modified breakfast and lunch schedules. Physical spacing, where reasonable, will be organized for all cafeterias on campus. Proper sanitation of all areas will be completed after each meal. Procedures will not allow students to pick up utensils, self-serve, or share food. Parents are strongly encouraged to open an online payment for student meals [here](#) so cash is not exchanged. Please send a water bottle with your child as water fountains will not be available. The district is working to install contact-less water dispensing stations in each school for students to use when refilling water bottles.

If students choose to do full-time virtual learning, will they be able to participate in extracurricular activities?

Yes. Lake Hamilton Virtual Academy (LHVA) students are allowed to participate in extracurricular activities. LHVA students must fully participate in all practices and other requirements to remain eligible. Students that attend practices that occur during the middle of the day must be taken home after practice is over. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from the activity. Parents are responsible for all practice related transportation.

Will Lake Hamilton Primary School conduct kindergarten screening in July?

No. Incoming kindergarten students will not attend on-site screening in July. All incoming kindergarten students will be given a screening assessment after the school year begins.

Will the LHSD have an open house for students and parents in August?

Yes, there will be modified open house opportunities for students and parents. Please read the open house information for each building on their "[Ready for Learning](#)" plan.

LAKE HAMILTON IS HERE *for* YOU

Can you guarantee the safety of your students and staff?

No. Every risk cannot be mitigated but we will do all we can to ensure the safety of our staff and students. The well-being of our students, teachers and their families is our top priority.

How do you intend to provide a safe, sanitized environment?

The LHSD works with our custodial staff to comply with sanitation and safety directives from the ADH. Those actions include the following.

- Janitorial services will distribute wastebaskets, tissues, and CDC-approved hand sanitizer to every office and classroom so that these materials can be used upon entry and exit into any discrete location and during transit between sites.
- Signage about frequent handwashing, cough etiquette, and nose blowing will be widely posted, disseminated, and encouraged through various methods of communication.
- Janitorial staff will follow guidance from the ADH about the use of face masks and other PPE needed when performing cleaning duties.
- Janitorial staff will use the [CDC guidance](#) on cleaning.

How will the needs of my child with a disability be met?

In the case of on-site learning, your child's IEP or 504 plan will be followed as it is currently written. If your child is participating in blended, remote, or virtual learning, the IEP or 504 committees may need to reconvene to amend the plan to meet your child's needs in that specific style of instruction. All disability-related concerns will be considered on an individual basis with every effort made to meet your child's individual needs.