



**Administration Center  
Office of the Superintendent**  
1810 North Grant Street  
Lebanon, IN 46052  
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www.leb.k12.in.us

January 3, 2022

Dear LCSC Community,

I hope all have had a wonderful holiday season with family and friends. As we prepare to welcome back our students tomorrow, Tuesday, January 4, I want to provide an update on LCSC's COVID-19 practices.

### **MASK AND FACE COVERING REQUIREMENT - CONTINUED**

**When school resumes on January 4, the mask and face covering requirement in school facilities during school for all students, staff, and visitors will continue.**

At their regular meeting on December 14, 2021 the Lebanon Community School Corporation Board of Trustees approved revised COVID-19 practices. The plan presented indicated that beginning January 4, 2022, parents, staff, and visitors will make their own personal informed choice regarding the use of masks or face coverings.

The board approved plan also included the following:

- Masks could again become required if data of an individual school or the district meets or exceeds certain thresholds in combination with additional considerations;
- The school or district is unable to maintain staffing levels (transportation, food service, clerical, instructional staff, custodial and maintenance, nursing) necessary to support a safe and effective learning and working environment;
- Upon recommendation or directive of public health agency, or Governor's order.

You can view the complete plan, including details regarding the revised requirement, on our [COVID-19 website](#).

We have recently received a recommendation from the Boone County Health Department (BCHD) to continue our current masking practices. This recommendation is consistent with the most recent guidance of the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). This recommendation is supported by additional factors:

- Boone County and the state of Indiana are experiencing a significant increase in COVID-19 cases, including children.
- We have addressed multiple positive cases involving staff members over winter break. We anticipate additional staff cases in the coming days.



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- Hospitalization cases due to COVID-19 (including children and young adults) have significantly increased and have caused severe challenges to our local and state health care facilities.

In addition to the public health agency recommendations, the ISDH is continuing to review new CDC guidance related to the quarantine and isolation for positive COVID-19 individuals and close contacts. We believe it is important to receive all updated guidance and rules prior to making a change to our current practices.

By continuing our current practice of requiring masks and face coverings, and while following the ISDH rules and requirements regarding quarantine, we will be able to maintain, to the highest degree possible, the number of students receiving in-person instruction and allow our students to continue participation in important co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

### **NEW – QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION GUIDANCE FOR POSITIVE COVID-19 INDIVIDUALS AND CLOSE CONTACTS TO POSITIVE COVID-19 INDIVIDUALS**

Last week, the CDC released updated quarantine and isolation guidance for individuals testing positive for COVID-19 and individuals exposed to an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19. This guidance, in most cases, reduces the number of days required to be excluded or quarantined from work or school. The ISDH held a webcast for schools on December 30, 2021. We are continuing to review the revised guidance and plan to implement the changes into our protocols beginning January 3, 2022. Confirmed COVID-19 positives and close contacts will receive information and instructions from supervisors or school administration.

### **REVISED – DEFINITION OF FULLY VACCINATED**

**UNCHANGED:** Exclusion/quarantine is not required for asymptomatic individuals who are close contacts to a positive COVID-19 person and are fully vaccinated, or for those who have tested positive and recovered from COVID-19 in the past 90 days. Additional instructions, recommendations, and guidance for when these individuals are able to return to school or work has been developed by the CDC and will be shared by his or her supervisor or school administration.

**NEW:** The CDC and IDOH have changed the definition of a fully vaccinated individual. A fully vaccinated individual is defined as:

- Fully vaccinated with Pfizer or Moderna: Individual is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after 2<sup>nd</sup> Fully vaccinated status applies only for six months following the second dose of mRNA vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna).



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- Fully vaccinated with Johnson & Johnson: Individual is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving Johnson & Johnson vaccine. Fully vaccinated status applies only for two months following the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Eligible individuals must receive a booster to be considered fully vaccinated. Please note that, at this time, boosters are not authorized for individuals ages 5-15; therefore, their fully vaccinated status does not expire.

### **LCSC TRANSPORTATION REMINDER**

Families using LCSC bus transportation are reminded that the Indiana Department of Education Director of Transportation, the Federal Transportation Safety Administration, and the Indiana State Department of Health has determined masks or face coverings **must be worn** on school buses and school transportation. **We ask for student and parent cooperation.**

- The Indiana Department of Education provided this guidance on July 14, 2021 and the Indiana Department of Health re-stated this requirement to all schools July 19, 2021
- [Read](#) more about this requirement from the CDC.

### **DATA REPORTING**

Beginning Thursday, January 13, LCSC will provide data on our [COVID-19 INFORMATION PAGE](#) representing the thresholds identified in the revised mask and face covering procedures. The data will be updated each Thursday.

You may view statewide and county by county COVID-19 data, including school data by visiting the [Indiana COVID-19 Dashboard and Map](#).

### **SUMMARY**

We encourage everyone to review the most current information provided by the [Boone County Health Department](#) and the [Indiana State Department of Health](#).

You may find our latest information on our [COVID-19 Resource Page](#).

We are looking forward to welcoming back our staff and students this week. I wish you all a happy, healthy, and meaningful 2022!



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Sincerely,

**Dr. Jon Milleman**  
Superintendent

**Lebanon Community School Corporation**

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