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Dear Lakewood Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for your patience as we work out the details to reopen school. Though the details are many, it is important I share the Lakewood Public Schools will:

- Offer quality educational experiences in the safest environment possible,
- Comply with all the requirements of each phase of the Michigan Return to School Roadmap understanding that the intention of the Roadmap is to minimize risk to the extent possible, not eliminate all risk,
- Provide teachers resources to more easily blend and move between in-person and remote instruction,
- Improve the instructional rigor and student accountability for completing academic work when remote instruction is required or chosen,
- Encourage in-person instruction but offer a one-hundred percent online education to families that desire it allowing students to remain enrolled as proud Vikings,
- Plan in conjunction with county health officials, neighboring school districts, LPS administrators, staff, and parents,
- Seek to establish additional community partnerships to assist students and families,
- Encounter issues not planned for but will seek to be understanding and responsive.

Some things for you to understand and consider as we continue to prepare the more detailed and required COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan for Board of Education approval in August are:

Instructional Programming

If you choose the 100% on-line program of instruction for your student(s), you will be committing to that program for the duration of the first semester before your student(s) would be able to return for in-person instruction at the his/her school. However, if a course is not offered on-line and is offered on campus, (e.g. band or CTE classes), the student may choose to enroll in these courses on-site.

Daily Self-Health Assessment

We will need your help to keep our schools open for in-person instruction. One of the best ways for you to do this is to ensure that you assess your student for any Coronavirus symptoms each morning before he/she leaves for schools. Under no circumstances should students displaying any symptoms come to school until they are symptom free.

Facial Coverings

The district is currently in a region designated as Phase 4 and as such, the Michigan Return to School Roadmap requires:

All staff to wear a facial covering at all times except during meals and if medically feasible.

Students preschool through grade five will need a facial covering in hallways and indoor common areas but will not need one in their classroom. It is our intention to limit the movement of these students to greatest degree possible, thereby reducing the time facial coverings are required.

Students in grades 6-12 are required to wear a facial covering at all times except during meals and if medically feasible.

With respect to the whether or not wearing a facial covering is “medically feasible”, the District will require medical professional’s written documentation (“doctor’s note”) or it will be expected the staff member or student will comply with the Roadmap requirements.

For fit and comfort reasons, it is our expectation that families provide their students with their own washable/reusable facial covering. To the extent that facial coverings are consistent with school dress codes and do not cause a disruption to the learning environment, the personalization of facial coverings is welcome. A limited number of disposal masks will be available for students who either forget or unable to purchase their own face covering.

Transportation

The Michigan Return to School Roadmap requires all staff and students preschool through grade twelve to wear a facial covering while on a school bus, if medically feasible. All students will have assigned seats and will be seated with family members first. Buses will be cleaned after each route. Like ensuring your student(s) are symptom free each morning, it would be very helpful that any family that is able to transport their students to and from school does so.

Co- and Extra-Curricular Activities

While in Phase 4, indoor spectator events are suspended, outdoor events are limited to 100 people, and people not part of the same household must maintain six feet of separation from one another. Building administration and the Athletic Department are working to develop plans for co- and extra-curricular activities that are consistent with the Return to School Roadmap and MHSAA guidelines and recommendations. Please remember that no co- and extra-curricular activities are permitted in Phases 1-3.

As more information is developed, we will widely and promptly share it.

Stay safe,



Steven C. Skalka

https://www.michigan.gov/documents/whitmer/MI_Safe_Schools_Roadmap_FINAL_695392_7.pdf