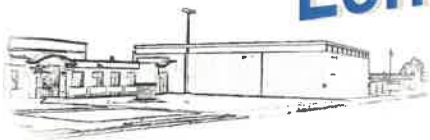


Lena Public School District



Small Community, Great Opportunity

304 East Main Street

Lena, WI 54139

920-829-5703 (5) District Office
920-829-5959 (3) Elementary Office
920-829-5244 (4) H.S./M.S. Office
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www.lena.k12.wi.us

Board of Education

Lori Dufek – President
Ed Huberty – Vice-President
Charles Imig – Clerk
Dave McNurlen – Treasurer
Tim Goldschmidt – Member

Ben Pytleski – District Administrator
Elementary Principal
Matt Hanson – MS/HS Principal/SPED Director

Lena Public School COVID Mitigation Plan – 2021-22

Introduction

- Our decision-making for opening school this fall has been in the best interest of our students and staff and has not been political in any way. We know that children learn best in a face-to-face environment and that teachers are also at their best in a face-to-face environment. This will continue to drive all of our decisions. We also realize that any plans presents risks that we do not take lightly. We will, once again, be opening full-time on September 1st and we will do so as safely and as practically as we can. Our safety protocols that will be put in place will be for the safety of all.
 - First Day of School will be Wednesday, September 1st, with normal school hours.
 - School will be in session 5 days a week using a traditional (face-to-face) format.
 - We will be hosting an Open House this year on Tuesday, August 31st from 4-6pm.

Safety

- Parents/guardians will be asked to screen their children for COVID symptoms prior to arrival at school. Like always, please keep your children home when they are sick.
- Hand sanitizers will be readily available entering each classroom and office.
- All public restrooms have been upgraded with touchless faucets, soap dispensers, and towel dispensers.
- Cleaning and disinfecting will take place continuously throughout the daily schedule.
- Each teacher will be setting up their classrooms in a way to physically distance as much as practicable, whether using desks, tables, or a combination of both.
- Meals will be served in as safe of a way as possible, utilizing several areas to ensure social distancing during breakfast and lunch.
 - We will be utilizing the classrooms, multi-purpose room, and the small gym to effectively social distance our students during the lunch periods.

Buses/Parent-Student Pick Up

- Parents/Guardians will be permitted to enter the building during drop-off or pick-up times if they have specific questions, but the school cannot be used for a gathering/socializing area for parents. Parent are free to gather and socialize in the parking lot areas.
- Student drop-off and pick-up areas will be the same as past years and we will have staff to greet Elementary students outside and to escort out to vehicles.
- We are encouraging parents, who are able to do so, to drop off and pick up their children to help us with minimizing crowded buses.
- Lamers Bus Lines is asking that masks be worn on any public transportation, including school buses. We ask for your cooperation. Thank you.

Contact Tracing Changes

- Perhaps the biggest change in protocols will be regarding contact tracing. We want to reduce the amount of healthy students being forced to quarantine due to a close-contact of a positive COVID test. We will continue to alert families of a close contact, but that student will still be allowed to come to school as long as he/she is not showing symptoms. Stay home if you are sick. If a household has a confirmed positive COVID case, then any student in that same household would still need to quarantine for 10 days and be symptom-free before returning to school.

Visitors/Building Access

- Only essential school service professionals, essential deliveries, and service/repair professionals will be allowed during the school day. Parents may visit the District, Middle/High School, or Elementary Offices.
- Classroom volunteers and lunch visitors will not be allowed until further notice.

Communication

- Communication is a critical component of any plan. Making sure that the District is communicating key messages both internally and externally will be important as we work to build confidence in our school district's ability to bring people back to the building in a safe way.

Our return plan and all updates will be posted on the school homepage <https://www.lena.k12.wi.us> and we will utilize our School Messenger System and School Facebook Page as well. The website will serve as the central hub for information and will be updated regularly as appropriate.

Preventive Safety Measures

Physical Distancing

The definition of physical distancing regarding COVID-19 is a minimum distance of six feet in all directions. We understand that by nature we are social beings, and in a school setting, physical distancing will be difficult to achieve, however the district is working hard to create environments that allow for physical distancing.

Face Coverings

Wearing face coverings has been shown to reduce the spread of infection by protecting you, as well as those around you. Students and staff may choose to bring their own appropriate face coverings. Appropriate face coverings must cover both the nose and mouth. Double thickness is recommended by the CDC guidelines. All face coverings must comply with the school dress code.

Face coverings will be OPTIONAL for all students in grades 4K - 12. A face covering includes, but is not limited to: bandanas, cloth face masks, disposable or paper masks, or neck gaiters.

Isolation Rooms

The District will have designated isolation rooms available for individuals who are at school and come down with COVID-19 symptoms. There will be an isolation room located in both the Elementary School and in the Middle/High School.

Drinking Water

We recommend that students bring their own water bottle to use at our bottle filling stations.

Vulnerable Individuals

Parents of Elementary Students who may be particularly vulnerable to the effects of COVID-19 due to a specific health condition may request accommodations by contacting Superintendent/Elementary Principal Ben Pytleski at pytleskib@lenak12.org. Parents of Middle and High School Students may contact MS/HS Principal Matt Hanson at hansonm@lenak12.org

Personal Hygiene

Coughing and Sneezing

Even with a facial covering, it is still important to cough or sneeze into your elbow, not your hands. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with hand sanitizer.

Healthy Hand Hygiene

Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands. Staff will work with students to help teach healthy hand washing techniques.

Hand Sanitizing

Hand sanitizer will be provided in all classrooms, department offices and other key areas in the building.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Classrooms will be equipped with basic surface sanitizing sprays and wipes and hand sanitizer. Individuals are encouraged to clean their personal space before and after use. Classrooms will also be cleaned regularly by custodial staff.

Learning Environment

Lena intends to maximize traditional (face-to-face) instruction while preserving the health and safety of everyone in our classrooms and academic buildings. When possible, teachers will take "mask breaks" outside and utilize our outdoor spaces for classes when appropriate.

Virtual Learning

We will be utilizing Virtual Learning Platforms, specifically Google Classroom, while we are face-to-face. We will reserve full-time virtual learning for our students who may need to quarantine due to a positive COVID test. School-issued Chromebooks will be supplied to students in grades 4th-12th.

Special Education

- IEP's will be conducted in-person and virtually if needed.
- Special Education teachers will continue to create transition plans in the event of additional school closures.
- Special Education teachers will continue to prioritize the IEP goals.

Common Areas

Cafeteria/Lunch Times

Students will be released to the cafeteria at staggered times. Hand sanitizer will be available as the students enter the kitchen through one entrance. The kitchen staff will serve students and will enter student lunch numbers to minimize the amount of cross contamination. We will be eating in different areas on a rotating basis between the cafeteria, the small gym, the multi-purpose room, and the classroom.

Physical Education

Physical Education classes will continue to be outdoor when possible with appropriate activities.

Bus

Students will be asked to wear a face covering on the bus. All students will be assigned a seat, which will allow for better physical distancing, as well as to help with contact tracing. Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrance of the bus.

Meetings, Programs and Events

All meetings, programs and events are subject to administrative approval.

Travel

All students and employees are encouraged to limit nonessential personal travel. Visit the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.dhs.wisconsin.gov) prior to travel for the latest travel guidance.