

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS AT EMS

Implementing and managing a safe school environment is a priority. Out building COVID safety practice and procedures are

directed by the Department of Health (DOH), the Center for Disease Control (CDC), specific school district requirements, and specific building-based needs (examples: layout and traffic patterns).

Current building practice: Students and staff are expected to be masked when together at school.

- Other layers of protective will be utilized including increased ventilation, regular hand hygiene, classroom cleanings between periods, and no food or drink in classrooms (students instead can access “break stations” outside of the classroom).
- Social distancing will continue, including 3 foot distancing in classrooms and at lunch.
- Students will enter the school building at multiple entries point, this helps reduce possible large congregations of students at the main door.
- Students will not be allowed to congregate between classroom periods or at break time. Instead they will need to transition directly to their classroom or take breaks within the classroom.
- When possible, seating charts will be used in order to complete necessary contact tracing and to communicate possible exposure in timely ways.
- At this time, vaccinations are not required, but are encouraged for those who are 12 years of age and over. If contact tracing is necessary, the health room staff have the opportunity to identify vaccination status within school records.
- If students present any COVID symptoms prior to the school day, they should stay home. If students present COVID symptoms unexpectedly while at school, they will be escorted by staff to the Quarantine Room. Based on individual evaluation, staff will determine next steps.
- Our building has a COVID Safety Supervisor (me). I regularly meet with our safety team to monitor safety implementation and make needed adjustments based on shifting data/guidance from the DOH or CDC.

Other important information:

- In our region, nearly 97% of residents aged 12 and up have been vaccinated.
- Families that are interested in having their child participate in the online learning option can learn more about the process for doing so here: [Online Learning Option for 2021-22 - Lake Washington School District \(lwsd.org\)](https://www.lwsd.org/online-learning)
- Links to resources and data tracking:
 - The district will be following the guidelines from the Washington State Department of Health with respect to school operations. You can read these guidelines here: [K-12 Schools Requirements 2021-2022 \(wa.gov\)](https://www.wa.gov/health/schools-requirements).
 - We also pay close attention to King County and our regional data on cases, hospitalizations, and vaccination rates which you can find here: [COVID-19 data dashboard - King County](https://www.kingcounty.gov/health/COVID-19)