

January 3, 2022

Dear LCCS Community:

Due to the continual changing circumstances regarding the COVID-19 virus, we felt it important to provide you with this update to our school protocols. Though I encourage each of you to remember in whom we trust - "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth..." Acts 17:24.

First of all: Thank you to all the parents that have followed the previous guidelines so closely. We believe that this diligence is one reason our numbers of positive COVID cases at school have been low.

Secondly: This new variation of the COVID-19 virus is very contagious according to information from the Center for Disease Control and the Ohio Department of Health. Therefore, though we are not mandating masking for students, we do support the guidelines regarding masking of children at school.

Thirdly: We will continue to require that students stay home who are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. IN ADDITION, we will continue to enforce the need for school age siblings to remain at home also, even if they are not displaying symptoms, UNLESS they receive a negative COVID-19 PCR or antigen test.

Fourthly: Required quarantine times have been shortened. Therefore, please follow these guidelines:

1. Student has symptoms, but does NOT get a COVID-19 test; stay home until fever is gone and other symptoms are better. Wear a mask for five more days OR receive an alternative diagnosis from a physician.
2. Student has symptoms, receives a negative test result OR receives an alternative diagnosis from a physician; return to school 24 hours after fever is gone and symptoms are improving.
3. Student has symptoms, receives a positive test result; student isolates for at least 5 days. If symptoms are gone, return to school and wear a mask for 5 more days.
4. Siblings who are NOT symptomatic may return to school with a negative test result. If not tested, must remain at home 5 days and then return to school with a mask for 5 more days.

Students showing symptoms at school will be sent home with his/her siblings unless they have a documented alternative diagnosis.

If a student who has been at school tests positive for COVID-19, then the school will practice due diligence to identify those who have been exposed (i.e. people who have been within six feet of the student for fifteen minutes are considered **direct contacts**). The school will cooperate with the Stark County Health Department which now recommends the following "Mask to Stay" procedure ONLY for exposure in the school setting:

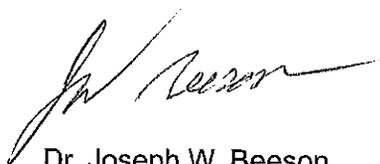
Direct contacts, regardless of vaccination or masking status, may remain in the classroom environment if they do the following:

- Wear a mask for 10 days from their last date of exposure.
- Self-monitor or parent-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19
- Isolate and get tested IF they start to experience symptoms associated with COVID-19 (regardless of level of severity).

Days out of school due to COVID-19 related illness and quarantine procedures will be considered an excused absence. Academic support will be provided for students missing school due to COVID-19 related illness/quarantine. This support may include Temporary Remote Attendance (TRA), in which case the student will be considered present if he/she participates in TRA. Please contact your principal for more information regarding academic procedures.

We continue to covet your prayers for wisdom.

In His Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Beeson", written in a cursive style.

Dr. Joseph W. Beeson,
Superintendent