

2021-2022 In-Person Learning Plan

COVID-19 Safety and Protection Protocols

www.newlebanoncsd.org | Andrew Kourt, Superintendent



Students in the New Lebanon Central School District will return to in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year. This document summarizes our full In-Person Learning Plan document, which is [available on our website](#). The information in the plan is based upon guidance and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control, New York State Department of Health and the New York State Education Department.



MASKS

- Facemasks are required at all times while indoors except for meals and/or mask breaks.
- Mask breaks are permitted as long as students are 6 feet apart from one another
- The District will have masks available for anyone who needs them.
- Masks are not required during outdoor recess but students should stay in cohorts and be physically distanced.



PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- Students will maintain at least a 3 feet distance from other students within classrooms.
- New Lebanon CSD will attempt to increase physical distance to 6 feet whenever possible.
- 6 feet of distance will be maintained for any activities that require increased respiration (singing, wind instruments, PE, etc.)



ATHLETICS

- All student-athletes must submit to regular surveillance testing to be eligible to participate in extracurricular sports.
- Low/Intermediate risk sports will be tested once per week, high risk sports will be tested twice per week.
- Parents/Guardians must complete the consent form for their child to be tested.



MEALS & CAFETERIA USE

- New Lebanon CSD will continue to provide breakfast and lunch to all students at no cost.
- Students will be 6 feet apart while eating in the cafeteria.
- If needed, meals may be served in other areas or in staggered periods to ensure physical distancing.
- Masks must be worn any time the student is not eating.
- Sharing of food and beverages is prohibited.
- All tables will be cleaned and sanitized between meal periods according to DOH guidelines.
- If in-person instruction is not provided and all students are learning remotely, meals will be provided.



TRANSPORTATION

- All students and staff must wear a mask at all times on any bus.
- Each bus will be cleaned and disinfected daily and high contact areas will be sanitized between each run.
- Parents are expected to complete their child's daily health screening before entering the bus.
- Each student will have an assigned seat on the bus, distanced as much as possible.
- Windows and roof hatches will remain open as long as weather allows.



COMMUNICATION

- New Lebanon CSD will communicate information and updates to families through the district website, phone calls, emails, and the School Messenger system.
- Families are urged to ensure the correct contact information is on file with the district.



FACILITIES

- At this time, there will be no use of district facilities by community organizations. We will evaluate this monthly in conjunction with the Columbia County DOH.



CLEANING & SANITIZING

- Both schools and the district office will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized daily. High-touch areas will be sanitized regularly throughout the school day.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout both schools and the district office.



VENTILATION

- All of our facilities, classrooms and offices have windows for natural ventilation.
- Faculty will open windows whenever weather permits.
- Our HVAC system has filters that are changed according to manufacturer specifications and our health and safety experts.



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

- Our comprehensive developmental school counseling plan is reviewed annually to better meet student needs.
- School psychologists, counselors and administrators meet monthly to review programs, student needs and services.
- Professional Development will be offered as it becomes available to our staff to enhance our ability to support students during and after COVID-19.



COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

- We urge parents and guardians to stay home (or keep their child(ren) home) if they show signs of being sick, and to seek testing when [symptoms are present](#).
- Any student who exhibits symptoms will be required to go home and not return to school in-person for 10 days unless they have a negative COVID-19 test result or a doctor's note with an alternate diagnosis and are symptom free.



COVID-19 TESTING

- New Lebanon CSD has the capacity to perform COVID-19 tests under certain circumstances on site at school. Testing will not be administered without parental consent.



CONTACT TRACING

- New Lebanon CSD will work closely with the Columbia County Health Department to conduct contact tracing as needed on a case by case basis.
- A district staff member will call any family or employee who must quarantine.
- DOH staff will contact those who are found to be a direct contact with the infected person and provide quarantine instructions.



TECHNOLOGY

- Students in Grades K-12 will have full access to a Chromebook during the school day. Students in Grades 4-12 will likely take their device between school and home.
- The district has increased access to high speed internet by creating hotspots in each building's parking lot. New Lebanon Town Hall and the New Lebanon Library also provide access from outside their buildings.
- We will continue using multiple digital platforms to display students' evidence of learning.



TEACHING AND LEARNING

- In-person and long term remote learning will be delivered regularly to students by NYS certified teachers and will be aligned to NYS learning standards.
- Instruction will be accessible to all students, and the district will provide devices to all students.
- Email and Google Classroom will be the established methods for students and families to communicate with teachers.
- Whenever present in a school building, all persons will follow health and safety guidelines outlined in NYSED guidance and as required by the NYSDOH.



SCHOOL CLOSURE

- In the event that New Lebanon CSD is required to pause in-person learning for a classroom, grade level, or building, we will be ready to pivot to remote learning for the impacted students.
- Any decision regarding a closure will be made in conjunction with the Columbia County Health Department.

This plan is fluid and will be updated as we move through the school year and circumstances, metrics and guidance change. Please visit the district website for the most up to date information.