



**LAMOILLE NORTH SUPERVISORY UNION  
OVERVIEW: REOPENING SCHOOLS**

**FALL 2020**



To All Lamoille North Families and Staff:

Thanks to the ongoing work of the many local and district task force members, and the meaningful information we received from parent, staff and student surveys over the past several months, we are pleased to offer this reopening overview to assist families and staff as we navigate the reopening of our schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. I extend my deepest appreciation and respect for all team members and our communities for their roles in helping us reopen with optimal health, safety and education guidelines in place. Our planning process has been, and continues to be, intentional and thoughtful; every decision we make prioritizes equity, engagement, deep learning, and the safety of our students, staff and community. I wholeheartedly believe we have the best team in all of New England, if not beyond. The dedication, commitment, and compassion of Lamoille North teams are truly beyond compare.

While no public entity can ensure the absence of COVID-19 in its buildings and in its activities, we have and are continuing to work diligently to reduce the impact of COVID-19 (as feasible). The procedures in this plan are to protect the wellbeing of students and staff, to establish a sense of normalcy, and to provide instruction for students. The guidelines referenced in this plan are based upon guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Vermont Department of Health (VTDOH). **This plan is fluid as the situation with COVID-19 changes from day to day.** Regular updates will be made to this plan based on information provided by the CDC, VTDOH, and applicable federal, state and local agencies. **This overview is designed to cover general district guidelines, but it will be important for you to follow all of the procedures and guidance in individual school plans which will be shared with you, if they have not already.**

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

In order to ensure the continued wellbeing of our employees and students, the following guiding principles have been put in place:

1. **STUDENT AND EMPLOYEE SAFETY MEASURES** are first and foremost.
2. **HEALTH GUIDELINES** are non-negotiable, but fluid as the situation with COVID-19 evolves.
3. **SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES** is essential for student health and learning.

The Vermont Agency of Education (AOE) guidance, [A Strong and Healthy Start](#), is the primary guiding document that informs our decision making. The AOE and VTDOH have directed that we start in Step II of the guidance, which states: "Schools are open for in-person instruction with enhanced physical distancing measures and includes the following recommendations: ● Whenever feasible, keep classes together to include the same group of students each day, and keep the same teachers and staff with the same group each day. This will need to be addressed differently to meet the educational

needs of high school, and maybe middle school, students. • Space seating/desks to at least six feet apart, (three to six feet apart in grades PreK-5) when possible. • Turn desks to face in the same direction (rather than facing each other), or have students sit on only one side of tables, spaced apart.”

## **RE-OPENING MODELS FOR LEARNING**

Given the AOE’s recommendations for Step II, Lamoille North Supervisory Union (LNSU) has decided to implement a hybrid model, K-12, with some students attending in-person on an “A” day (Monday and Tuesday) and others attending in-person on a “B” day (Thursday and Friday), so that most students have two onsite days of learning and three offsite days of learning. Some students will attend four days of in-person instruction on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, and we will accommodate those who request it if, and only if, we can maintain class sizes that adhere to strict safety and distancing guidelines. Wednesdays are being reserved as full days for remote learning, planning, and cleaning.

Districts made the decision to offer a hybrid model after carefully considering the AOE guidance which recommends six-foot physical distancing whenever possible. The only way to achieve this is to have substantially fewer students in any one building or classroom at any one time.

We are also offering a fully-remote learning option for K-12 students who believe this option will best meet their needs.

The Green Mountain Technology & Career Center (GMTCC) will look a little different from our K-12 schools because of the small size of the programs and the many sites that serve as locations for our programs. GMTCC is offering four days of in-person instruction per week on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday will be a remote learning day for students. There is no fully-remote option available at GMTCC.

Any hybrid model has significant drawbacks, and we are sensitive to the challenges this poses for families across the supervisory union. Our goal is to have success with the hybrid model early on and build confidence among our staff, community, and leaders so that we can safely increase the days of in-person instruction in the fall, but only if the state continues to manage COVID-19 and if that is what the updated guidance allows.

**We plan to review the health modeling in the first 30-45 days of school and will make adjustments as the health data allows.**

Again, as you read through this document, it is important to remember that there will be changes to some of it from time to time as we receive new and different information. State and Federal guidelines and guidance are frequently changing and our staff are committed to being flexible in our plans. Please visit the LNSU website frequently, where you will find updated versions of this document, FAQs, and more. And as always, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions you may have throughout the

school year. In the following sections, you will read about our learning, health, and safety plans for students, staff and our community.

My very best to you,

Catherine Gallagher, M.Ed.  
Superintendent of Schools  
Lamoille North Supervisory Union

## **STUDENT AND STAFF HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

Lamoille North's aim is to adhere to health and safety best practices as feasible using multiple resources including "A Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Reopening Schools, Fall 2020" and "Health Guidance for Childcare and School Age Camps/Care" guidelines; CDC guidelines; recommendations from the Academy of Pediatrics, VSNA (Vermont State Nurses Association), NASN (National School Nurses Association), NEA (National Education Association), and VTDOH to develop our Health Plan for 2020-2021.

On that note, we are pleased to state that Flo Kelley, RN, BSN, is our District COVID-19 Nurse Coordinator. Flo has practiced in the health field for several decades and most recently has worked on the statewide Task Force on reopening guidelines for schools. Flo helped author all health guidelines that we have to date and has worked with all of our school nurses over the summer to ensure consistency of training and implementation of best health protocols. We acknowledge her expertise and are grateful to have her as a leader in our schools. Flo can be reached at 851-1347, or at [fkelley@luhs18.org](mailto:fkelley@luhs18.org).

**Please note: The information and guidance to follow is updated frequently by health and education officials and therefore subject to change.**

**The objectives of our health guidance are to:**

1. Decrease risk of individuals infected with COVID-19 from entering the school building through effective public health prevention.
2. Decrease transmission of COVID-19 among staff and students through effective public health measures.
3. Quickly identify individuals with COVID-19 and put containment procedures in place to minimize the impact on students, staff and education.
4. Ensure that the unique needs of students with physical, emotional and behavioral concerns are thoroughly addressed in a fair and equitable manner.
5. Communicate regularly with staff, students, families and the community to provide assurances that schools are working to keep students and staff safe and healthy.

6. Ensure that COVID-19 health guidance safeguards an equitable educational experience for all students.

### **Health Screenings**

All students and visitors *must have a temperature check* at the first point of contact (either as they get on the bus or arrive at their school building).

Students who have a temperature of 100.4 or above *will not be allowed on the bus or will be excluded from entering school buildings.*

Families will need to communicate with schools about this requirement so plans can be put in place if students do have a fever.

Each school will have a specific process and parents/guardians who drop off students are expected to remain *until their student has cleared their temperature check.*

Students while at school who show signs or symptoms of illness will be placed in the appropriate health space until a parent/guardian or another approved person can bring them home.

Currently, if students or staff have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19, they are to stay home or go home. School nurses will assess students and document symptoms/illnesses.

All staff will conduct a health screening prior to arrival to their building and complete a health form daily. Any student or staff member who meets any of the following conditions must stay home and contact their primary care provider:

- 1) Has had contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 10 days.
- 2) Is currently under quarantine with COVID-like symptoms.
- 3) Has any of the symptoms listed below or is feeling generally unwell:
  - Fever (100.4°F )
  - Chills or repeated shaking with chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
  - Sore throat
  - Muscle pain
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Diarrhea
  - Nausea/vomiting

Families are required to complete Daily Health Checks and verify or document responses.

- Currently we have written forms and parents/guardians and particularly those of younger children are asked to complete these forms at home each morning.
- Forms will be collected at the first point of contact with the student and submitted to the school nurse each day.
- Once students have had their temperature check, they should then wash their hands or use hand sanitizer and go directly to their assigned classroom.
- Students who are arriving by bus should have their temperature checked prior to/upon boarding the bus to reduce potential spread of the virus.
- Students arriving by bus who have already been screened are not “mixing” with students arriving by other means who have not yet been screened. They will be directed to a specific school entry.
- Employees are being offered the opportunity to do their Daily Health Check at home and document their responses. *Employees are not required to do temperature checks upon arrival to the building if they did it at home.*
- Employees will need to check their temperatures if they leave campus and return, such as going to the bank and back.
- A separate screening station for staff will be provided for those who don't have a thermometer at home.
- Those staff who screen at home should enter the building through the entry designated for those who have already been screened; staff who did not screen at home should enter the same entry as those unscreened but have a designated set-up for their onsite screen.
- It is recommended that staff and students maintain a “contact log”.

### **Exposure/Exclusions**

Students/staff who have been identified as a close contact to someone who is diagnosed with COVID-19 should self-quarantine by staying home.

To reiterate, students and staff will be excluded from in-person activities if they:

- Show symptoms of COVID-19: chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, nasal congestion/runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Have been in close contact with a person with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19.
- Have been in close contact with a person under quarantine for possible exposure to COVID-19.
- Have traveled to an area where the local or state health department is reporting large numbers of COVID-19 cases. See the Vermont Department of Health website: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/traveling-vermont>.

Healthy students and staff with the following symptoms/conditions are not excluded from in-person school activities:

- Allergy symptoms (with no fever) that cause coughing and clear runny nose and have medically-diagnosed allergies and follow medical treatment plans.
- Well-controlled asthma.
- **This inclusion does NOT require** a medical clearance note from a healthcare provider when the child's allergy and/or asthma condition was known prior to COVID-19. A new diagnosis does require written confirmation from the child's healthcare provider.

Families should notify the school if their student(s) are staying home due to quarantining or illness so they can be marked absent by the school. Students should have the ability to access remote learning from home and could be marked as present if submitting work.

### **School Drop off and Pick up**

- Parents and designated persons who are under self-quarantine due to close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual should NOT participate in drop off or pick up.
- Adults participating in drop off and pick up are required to wear facial coverings.
- Students who are carpooling in the same vehicle each need to wear facial coverings.
- Parents/guardians who drop off students are expected to remain until their student(s) have completed a temperature check.
- Each school will determine specific drop-off times and pick-up times and procedures.
- Parents, guardians, and visitors will not be allowed in the buildings without a prior appointment.
- Each school will determine entrances for pick up and drop off and processes.

### **Facial Coverings**

- **All students and staff must wear facial coverings while in the building.**
- Face coverings should be worn over the mouth and nose.
- Education and training will be provided to staff and families regarding design, how to wear and care for face coverings, exclusions, appropriate level of education and training for age, when they can be taken off, and how to store them.
- Posters will be displayed throughout the schools.
- Children over two years old who have a medical or developmental reason for not wearing a face covering should not wear one. These decisions should be made in partnership with the family and the child's healthcare provider.
- Students should not wear facial coverings while sleeping, eating, or swimming.

- Staff should keep six feet of distance from students while eating.
- Staff may remove facial coverings indoors for brief periods of time, including during eating and drinking, if they can assure six feet of distance between students and other staff to the best of their ability.
- It is recommended to use facial coverings with clear plastic windows to support communication with individuals with hearing impairment, where visual cues are needed, etc. Teachers and staff who may consider using clear face coverings include:
  - Those who interact with students or staff who are deaf or hard of hearing, per the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
  - Teachers of young students learning to read
  - Other students as deemed appropriate
- Students/staff can remove facial coverings during outdoor activities when they can maintain six feet physical distancing and have ready access to put them back on as needed when activity stops or they cannot maintain physical distancing.
- When students are not singing or playing an instrument that requires the use of their mouth, they should wear a cloth face covering in music class (unless class is outdoors and distancing can be maintained). While outdoors, if students are singing or playing an instrument, use visual cues to keep them six feet apart. (\*Currently, playing instruments and singing indoors is not allowed.)

The use of face shields for staff is **less preferable** but allowable. **FOR STAFF ONLY:** Face Shields **should extend below the chin, to the ears on both sides, and there should be no exposed gap between the forehead and the shield's headpiece.** They should be cleaned regularly and handled like face coverings when putting on or removing (washing hands before and after handling). *Wearing a face shield and face mask provides better protection, however this practice is difficult to maintain over long periods of time as face shields tend to fog. Wearing a face shield alone as a face covering is permissible per the VTDOH/AOE guidelines if appropriate design and maintenance requirements are followed.*

- We are supplying adults and children with surgical masks as needed and PPE as required depending on CDC guidelines and VTDOH guidelines.
- Some staff (SLP's, therapists, school nurses, custodians) will be required to follow their health field guidelines as well.
- District nurses have been encouraged to reach out to community resources for availability of cloth face coverings. Many community centers, volunteers, and other local community agencies have made and provided them for free.

## **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

When caring for younger students, those who are not toilet trained, etc., staff must wear a mask and wash hands, place gloves on hands, dispose of gloves after, and wash hands again.

Staff that work with students unable to control their secretions should wear a surgical mask and eye protection (either goggles or a face shield) for added protection. If surgical masks are not available, staff may use a KN95 mask.

Nursing staff, and any staff identified as Health Care Providers (HCP), will follow CDC guidelines (7/15/20) for appropriate PPE use in a health care setting.

## **Health Services: Isolation/Waiting Room Procedures**

- All schools will have a designated room for students displaying COVID-like symptoms to isolate until parent/guardian can pick them up.
- Students will have surgical masks placed on their faces. School nurses will monitor students' symptoms as needed.
- A record of all students placed in the isolation room will be kept with documentation including the student's name, date, and time, and duration the student was in the room. Parents/Guardians are expected to arrange pick up for their students immediately after being called. If a parent/guardian cannot come, then another emergency contact should be designated to pick up the student. Depending upon a student's age and health status, a student could be released to walk or drive him or herself home with parent/guardian verbal permission.

## **Return-to-School Policies/Guidelines for Safe Return to School In-person\***

### **Following Exclusion**

- Students and staff with no specific diagnosis should be excluded from in-person activities until they are no longer considered contagious. Those excluded for respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, congestion, or runny nose) should see improvement before returning to school.
- Students and staff with a fever greater than 100.4°F and no specific diagnosis should remain at home until they have a temperature of 99.5 F or less for 24 hours (per CDC guidelines) without the use of fever-reducing medications (i.e. ibuprofen, acetaminophen, etc.). Temperatures must be monitored at home. Notify the School Nurse if no thermometer is available.
- For those who tested positive, or have been diagnosed with COVID-like symptoms, return to in-person activities will occur if 10 days have passed since symptoms started AND they have remained fever free for 24 hours AND cough or breathing symptoms are improving.
- Anyone who has been diagnosed with an illness or disease other than COVID-19 should follow provider directions, treatment, and return guidance.

- Parents/guardians of students must consult with a primary care provider regarding symptoms upon exclusion. The School Nurse must be notified of the outcome of the primary care visit prior to school return.

**\*Note:** Staff and students may participate in school activities and education remotely if they are feeling well enough to do so. Schools will provide education for students both in-person and remotely.

### **Cases of COVID-19 in School and Contact Tracing**

- Parents will be notified via the VTDOH if their child has been in contact with or is COVID-19 positive after a test. If there is a positive case in the District, the VTDOH will contact LNSU and we will work with the VTDOH to conduct contact tracing to determine who else is at risk and must quarantine.
- The school health team will provide the VTDOH with records of attendance and lists of who interacted with whom on specific dates and times to aid in the contact tracing process. The VTDOH will conduct the contact tracing and contact employees or parents/guardians of students directly affected by the person who is positive and will provide guidance to those individuals.
- If COVID-19 is confirmed in a student or staff member, LNSU schools will follow the AOE's "Strong and Healthy Start Guidelines":
  - Close off areas used by a sick person and do not use these areas until after cleaning and disinfecting; wait 24 hours, or as long as practical, before beginning cleaning and disinfecting to allow droplets to settle.
  - Open outside doors and windows and use ventilating fans to increase air circulation in the area.
  - Clean and disinfect all areas such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, and shared electronic equipment used by the ill person(s), focusing especially on frequently touched surfaces.
  - Ensure safe and correct use and storage of cleaning and disinfection products, including storing products securely away from children.
  - Communicate with staff and parents/guardians/caregivers with general information about the situation. It is critical to maintain confidentiality.
  - Following the contact tracing process, the VTDOH will instruct the District in how to proceed with sharing of information and we will be as transparent as we can by law. Decisions about school closure will be made based on guidance from the AOE.
  - The school isolation spaces are separate to serve as an extension of a Health Office to accommodate symptomatic students and staff.
  - Students/staff will be isolated as soon as possible.
  - Specific nursing isolation procedures set forth by the VTDOH and CDC are to be followed by nursing staff.

## **Support for Students with Special Health and Educational Needs**

Lamoille North will provide services and accommodations in accordance with the student's IEP as developed by the IEP team. The team will convene to review the student's plan to determine what accommodations and modifications to services, if any, are required in the in-person, hybrid, and fully-remote learning environment.

Students will follow district-wide safety precautions, including the use of masks in school, as much as possible. Exceptions will be made when the student's pediatrician believes wearing a mask is a health or safety risk for the student. Students who do not have special health risks and who are uncomfortable wearing masks will be provided with instruction and a plan to improve the student's understanding and compliance with these safety measures.

Students with disabilities with 504 Plans under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) will be provided with services and accommodations to access the general education curriculum as prescribed by the ADA. All 504 Plans will be reviewed to determine whether modifications are required in the student's plan to ensure access to learning in the hybrid, building-based, and virtual learning modalities.

Students with disabilities under IDEA and ADA will be provided with the same choice for online instruction as offered to students without disabilities. Students with health concerns not addressed in an IEP or 504 Plan will be provided with a health plan developed with the school nurse and family. This health plan will be reviewed as necessary to ensure student safety and access to education. An evaluation under ADA or IDEA should be considered.

## **Social-Emotional Wellbeing of Students and Staff**

The social-emotional impact of COVID-19 has not gone unnoticed. The district/campus counselors will provide resources for parents and all staff to access. Each counselor will work with students individually or in small groups to address any wellbeing needs. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to contact their student's school counselor with concerns.

Schools will coordinate with families, school staff, and community and state resources to assess and assist in the psychological and emotional recovery of staff and students to:

- Develop and implement universal social and emotional screening in partnership with mental health partners in order to identify students who need support.
- Recognize that all students have had different experiences from COVID-19 and not everyone in the school will be in the same place; be prepared to validate that some students are disappointed, some had fun, some are grieving, some are exhausted from added responsibilities at home, some have experienced trauma and some preferred remote learning and are reluctant to return.
- Establish a process, including community, social services and mental health partners, to help identify and provide support to students or staff at potentially

higher risk for significant stress or trauma from COVID-19. This should involve triage to see who needs crisis intervention and support in consideration of:

- Those who have experienced a death
  - Those with significant disruptions to their lifestyle (food insecurity, financial insecurity)
  - Those with a history of trauma and chronic stress or pre-existing mental health problems
  - Those with exposure to abuse and neglect
  - Those who have experienced significant anxiety, depression and/or suicidal ideation
- Develop a referral system for individuals who need targeted supports and/or community services.
  - Develop strategies and supports for students, families and staff members for each phase of recovery (before reopening, immediately after reopening and long-term support).
  - Develop social-emotional supports for the potential of schools re-closing and/or a need to stay home and isolate due to exposure to the virus or becoming infected with the virus.
  - Teach students how to screen themselves, take care of themselves and protect themselves during COVID-19.
  - Explain, in a developmentally appropriate way, to students why school looks different and how changes are linked to individual, family, and community safety.

### **Addressing Staff Needs**

Schools recognize that the social-emotional health and wellbeing of staff is important. Schools will:

- Identify community resources available to school staff.
- Increase communication efforts to ensure staff are aware of the district's employee wellness insurance coverage, FMLA, etc.
- Work with Human Resources to determine procedures for staff to take sick leave due to COVID-19 concerns for themselves and their families.
- Establish system-wide approaches to address secondary traumatic stress and compassion fatigue (e.g., tap in, tap out; buddy classrooms; boundary setting; self-care).

### **Addressing Family Needs**

Schools understand that families will need support to feel comfortable sending their children back to school and to help implement the new guidelines during COVID-19. Schools will:

- Ensure that all efforts to engage and communicate with families are culturally sensitive.
- Ensure all written and oral communications are available in easily accessible formats.

- Provide activities to help families feel comfortable sending their children back to school.
- Engage families to get a better understanding of their concerns regarding student needs and ways to collaborate to support a successful re-entry plan.
- Work with families to identify those who may need assistance with food, clothing and other basic needs.
- Determine and communicate procedures for schools conducting home visits.

We are continuing our work in district-wide Restorative Practices. It remains our goal to ensure that every student has a voice, and we understand that the best way to make that happen is to foster a climate of safety and inclusion for all students and staff. We are also fortunate to partner with Lamoille County Mental Health, SafeSchools, Healthy Lamoille Valley and REAL Schools. We are in the process of assembling a parent/student/staff group to eradicate systemic racism and all forms of social injustice in our school communities and beyond.

We are committed to addressing systemic racism in Lamoille North. To that end, we have committed to the following goals, with the understanding that this work is long-term and constant:

- Fully implement restorative practices in all schools to create a more equitable behavioral response system to reduce suspensions and punitive disciplinary actions.
- Review our core curricular materials and develop a plan to ensure our curriculum and teaching is culturally relevant, anti-racist, and holds high expectations for what all students know and are able to do.
- Create space for student and family voice in youth- and parent-led conversations about race and equity in our community.
- Implement a year-long race and equity training series for school and district leaders this school year.

## **CURRICULUM AND LEARNING EXPECTATIONS**

### **Pods, Physical Distancing, and Modified Layouts**

Students and teachers in grades PreK-12 will be assigned to learning “pods” to allow for better physical distancing as well as easy contact tracing should a positive COVID-19 case arise in the building. A learning pod model may involve placing two adults in the classroom for the entirety of the day, as much as possible. This decreases bringing new people into a classroom throughout the day; the reliance on substitutes; and the need for students to leave the classroom, thereby lowering the potential of sharing germs. Pods will range in size and will depend on the number of students who opt into the hybrid model.

## **Preschool**

Our preschool students will follow a Hybrid model of learning. If you have individual questions about preschool opportunities, please contact our Director of Early Education, Janet Murray, at [jmurray@lnsd.org](mailto:jmurray@lnsd.org).

Teachers will contact families to arrange opportunities to meet children and go over this year's schedule. Teachers are working creatively within the Health and Safety guidance to ensure high-quality preschool can still be at the heart of our program.

We are creating extended schedules of outdoor time and creative classroom layouts, and incorporating more individual tools, so children have their own materials. We will use our Restorative Practice models and circle times to teach tolerance, kindness, deep breathing, and self-regulation to help children understand the health and safety guidelines.

## **Learning Expectations for Hybrid Model Learners, K-12**

Most students will receive in-person learning two days per week and remote learning three days per week. In-person learning will focus on standards-based instruction and skills development along with learning that sets students up for the application of deeper learning or project-based learning during the remote learning days.

During remote learning days, students will be asked to collaborate with their peers and to complete independent projects and other deeper-learning activities that require standards-based reading, writing, and math skills. Skill-based lessons will also be available for students to access on their own time and at their own pace since the teacher will be engaged in in-person instruction with the other half of their class.

Remote learning lessons may include both offline (books, project materials, etc.) and online instruction (such as videos, databases, and other virtual tools). Students will be expected to use common digital platforms depending on their grade, including Seesaw, Google Classroom, Canvas and Schoology (7-12) to access remote learning plans.

On Wednesday, when all students are learning remotely, teachers will plan for future learning activities with colleagues. Each school has examples of sample hybrid learning schedules that have been sent to all families. Please contact your building principal in the event you have questions or need further clarification.

## **General Guidelines for Weekly Commitments**

Per VT AOE: "State Board of Education rules establish the *minimum number of hours* that 'constitute a school day' as being between 2 and 5.5 hours, depending upon grade level. Alternatively, a cumulative total of between 10 and 27.5 'hours of instructional time\*' in a calendar week constitutes five school days. A school district may decide to supplement its academic offerings through online providers such as the Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative."

**\*Note:** Instructional time includes the hours of direct instruction and expected independent work.

### **Guidelines for the Number of Weekly Assignments**

Number of Weekly Assignments Recommended\*:

- 2-4 per class/course
- 1 per specials class/course

**\*Note:** These are recommendations only, as the teacher must determine what is in the best interest of the student based on unique needs.

### **Grading, Testing, Attendance**

Teachers will provide grade-level instruction based on state and national standards. Teachers will share grade/course level grading expectations at the start of the school year. Parents can expect regular reporting of student progress and report cards.

### **Learning Expectations for Full-Time Remote Learners**

The full-time remote learning model will require students to access all learning in a virtual environment using a district-provided device (iPad or Chromebook).

The full-time remote option will be supported by LNSU licensed teaching staff. Daily attendance is required and will be noted through participation in an online classroom activity. See below for a description of our Virtual Academy.

## **LNSU Virtual Academy for K-6 Full-Time Remote Learners 2020-2021**

### **What is the Lamoille North Virtual Academy?**

The Lamoille North Virtual Academy is an opportunity for students in grades K-6 to participate in full-time, online learning. This learning opportunity is 100% online (virtual). Remote learning instruction will be facilitated by LNSU staff, and daily attendance is required and will be noted through participation in a full-time online program. **We cannot guarantee that your child's teacher will be from your local elementary school, but the teacher will be from our district and fully licensed.**

Students enrolled in full-time remote learning will be provided similar content and have a similar amount of school work as those attending school in-person (known as the Hybrid Model). LNSU will be using the Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative (VTVLC) online curriculum for all students that are full-time remote learners. Please note the following:

- Students enrolled in full-time remote learning will continue to receive special education services.
- Attendance, grading, and workload requirements will be consistent with in-person classes.
- Dates will be set for supply pickup so that students can receive any technology, textbooks or other supplies necessary to engage in remote learning.

The full-time remote learning model is ***completely separate*** from the hybrid model. It will look different from the instruction provided in the spring of 2020, which resulted from an emergency situation where there was little notice in transitioning all students to a remote learning environment. Daily expectations will be made clear in regards to the content, assignments, and grading expectations. Grading will return to what the expectations were prior to COVID-19.

### **What is the Vermont Virtual Learning Cooperative (VTVLC)?**

VTVLC was founded in 2009 and is Vermont's public education virtual pathway provider. VTVLC provides LNSU access to online course options and a learning management system delivered exclusively by our district Vermont licensed educators. Since 2009, VTVLC has supported many schools and students. VTVLC's Central Office is located in Springfield, VT.

### **How does the partnership between VTVLC and LNSU work?**

VTVLC provides:

- A Learning Management System called Canvas
- Online content from Florida Virtual and eDynamics
- Teacher and school support, along with statewide resources
- Technical support

LNSU provides:

- Full-time remote educators and a LNSU Virtual Academy Coordinator for local oversight

### **Who is eligible to enroll in Lamoille North Virtual Academy?**

Any currently enrolled LNSU K-6 student who resides in LNSU is eligible to participate in the LNSU K-6 Virtual Academy as long as we have space available with respect to student numbers.

### **When does the full-time remote learning program start?**

Online classes are scheduled to begin on Tuesday, September 8th, 2020.

### **Who will teach the LNSU Virtual Academy courses?**

Licensed educators from LNSU will be teaching the online curriculum. All Virtual Academy teachers will have additional training from VT VLC in virtual instruction.

### **Can my student return to in-person instruction during the school year?**

As with in-person instruction, full-time remote students and families should work closely with their teachers to explore accommodations and support as needed and follow up with their school Principal. Student enrollment can be assessed for change and will be dependent, in part, on available space in the Hybrid Learning Programs (due to social distancing requirements).

### **How will my child be kept accountable for their coursework with the Lamoille North Virtual Academy?**

All students enrolled with the Lamoille North Virtual Academy will receive grades and continuous feedback from their teacher(s). Teachers will be able to monitor and assess student classwork and activities in real-time. Parents can keep updated on attendance, grades, and assignments, just as they do when students are in in-person classes.

### **How will students in Lamoille North Virtual Academy students receive grades?**

Final grades earned by students become part of the individual's report card. Grading will return to pre-COVID expectations. We will no longer be using the "Pass" option for grades in the full-time remote learning or hybrid models.

### **Does the program provide instructional materials?**

Lamoille North will work with families to make sure each student has a device. Common school and office supplies like printer ink and paper are not provided.

### **What student skills are necessary for success in virtual courses?**

- Student has demonstrated time-management skills that indicate the student is capable of the submission of assignments and completing course requirements.
- Student has demonstrated persistence in overcoming obstacles and a willingness to seek the assistance from others when needed.
- Student has demonstrated verbal or written communication skills (appropriate to their developmental age) that would allow the student to succeed in an environment where the instructor may not be able to provide nonverbal cues to support the student's understanding.
- Student has the necessary computer or technical skills to succeed in a virtual course.

## Do you provide support for students with special needs?

Support will continue to be offered through LNSU Special Services. The Lamoille North Virtual Academy will provide accommodations, modifications, and assistive technology support for students with disabilities according to IEP and 504 Plans developed by the school district's IEP and 504 teams.

## Can you accommodate the accelerated learning needs of my student?

The program is flexible to meet students where they are in any given subject and take them where they need to go.

## What might a full-time remote schedule look like?

A sample schedule is provided below. Please note: **This schedule would be modified by each full-time remote learning teacher to account for student developmental levels, grade levels, unique needs, etc. For instance, a younger student's schedule may only be for two hours daily, and not have a full-day schedule. We will be following the AOE's guidelines for instructional hours, which range from two hours to 5.5 hours daily.**

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 - 8:30	Morning Meetings/ Homeroom/ Advisory				
8:30 - 9:00	Set daily tasks & expectations				
9:00 - 12:00	Students work on assignments; Teachers set up 1:1 or small group instruction in core content areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) and Specials	Students work on assignments; Teachers set up 1:1 or small group instruction in core content areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) and Specials	Students work on assignments; Teachers set up 1:1 or small group instruction in core content areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) and Specials	Students work on assignments; Teachers set up 1:1 or small group instruction in core content areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) and Specials	Students work on assignments; Teachers set up 1:1 or small group instruction in core content areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) and Specials
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch & Break				

1:00 - 2:30	Students work on assignments; Teachers set up 1:1 or small group instruction in core content areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) and Specials	Students work on assignments; Teachers set up 1:1 or small group instruction in core content areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) and Specials	Students work on assignments; Teachers set up 1:1 or small group instruction in core content areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) and Specials	Students work on assignments; Teachers set up 1:1 or small group instruction in core content areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) and Specials	Students work on assignments; Teachers set up 1:1 or small group instruction in core content areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies) and Specials
2:30 - 3:30	Teacher checks student work and checks in with families virtually via email, etc.; Student Personal Activity Time	Teacher checks student work and checks in with families virtually via email, etc.; Student Personal Activity Time	Teacher checks student work and checks in with families virtually via email, etc.; Student Personal Activity Time	Teacher checks student work and checks in with families virtually via email, etc.; Student Personal Activity Time	Teacher checks student work and checks in with families virtually via email, etc.; Student Personal Activity Time

If you have questions, please contact Tommy O'Connor, LNSU K-6 Virtual Academy Coordinator & LNSU Afterschool Connection Project Director, [toconnor@lnsd.org](mailto:toconnor@lnsd.org), or Wendy Savery, LNSU Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, [wsavery@lnsd.org](mailto:wsavery@lnsd.org).

### **Technology/Electronic Devices**

All Lamoille North PreK-12 students will be issued district devices to support learning this school year. Devices will need to be returned at the end of the year. Please contact Brian Pena, Director of Technology, at [bpena@lnsd.org](mailto:bpena@lnsd.org) for more information.

### **Afterschool Programs**

Each elementary school will host an afterschool program for students in grades K-6. The hours for the programs will be from school day dismissal until 5:30 p.m. Each school will communicate directly with parents/guardians regarding pick-up procedures. At the time of this writing, afterschool participation will be as follows: For students attending school in-person on Monday and Tuesday, afterschool participation will be available on Monday and Tuesday; for students attending school in-person on Thursday and Friday, afterschool participation will be available on Thursday and Friday; for students attending four days of in-person instruction, afterschool participation includes

availability on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. **At this time, there will not be an afterschool program for any students on Wednesdays.**

Students may only participate in an afterschool program if they are physically attending school that day; therefore, if a student is home for any reason that day, they may not participate in the afterschool program that day.

There will be dedicated daily academic time and an opportunity for students to help design and decide on the types of enrichment subject-areas that will be explored.

## **NUTRITION SERVICES**

**Our Director of Nutritional Services, Karyl Kent, has implemented the following procedures for our Meal Program:**

### **Meals During the School Day**

Lamoille North is looking forward to welcoming students back! Meals will look different this year, but we are committed to ensuring access to nutritious meals year-round.

The USDA has extended some of the waivers we had in the spring during our COVID-19 closure. This will allow us, just like in the spring, to provide FREE meals to all children 18 and under until December 31st, 2020.

Independent of the learning model that your child is receiving instruction this school year (Hybrid, Full-time Remote, Homeschool, or not yet enrolled in the school system), your child is automatically eligible for FREE Breakfast and FREE Lunch daily. So even when they are at school, they will be able to eat for free. You do not need to do anything to receive free meals. When you order meals, you will not be charged.

Please take advantage of this wonderful benefit; the more meals we serve, the better it is for our School Nutrition Programs and for our community. More meals served equals more local products in our schools and better nutrition for our students.

FREE meals are not only for families in need and you won't be "taking away" a meal from someone in need if you decide to get a meal for your child.

Meals will be offered in two models, Meals in the Classroom, or "Room Service", and Remote Meals, or "To-Go" Meals.

### **Meals in the Classroom (MIC)**

Our goal for MIC in Lamoille North is to ensure that all students receive daily school meals in a safe and comfortable environment so that they are ready to succeed in academic and social activities. MIC are served safely and efficiently, delivered by School Nutrition Staff to be eaten in the classroom.

## **Remote Meals (RM)**

RM are available for all students to order for curbside pickup for remote learning. Pickups are Tuesdays and Thursdays at each school at dismissal time (check with individual schools for time). Students using the hybrid model may pick up 3 breakfasts and 3 lunches. Students attending school in person four days a week can pick up 1 breakfast and 1 lunch for Wednesday. Full-time remote students may pick up 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches.

This will be a drive-thru model like our summer program; staff will hand meals to parents.

If you are unable to pick up meals at dismissal time, you may have another adult pick up for you.

## **How to order Meals in the Classroom (MIC)**

For Lamoille Union, GMTCC, Eden, Hyde Park and Waterville, a new online ordering system is in the works, but until it is fully functional, teachers will take classroom meal orders to send to the school nutrition manager each morning.

Cambridge and Johnson will use The Abbey Group ordering system and menus.

## **How to Order Remote Meals (RM)**

Parents should click here to sign up for [To-Go Meal Pickups](#) for all schools.

Menus, Meal Applications and Payment Center are all found on our Nutrition Website [www.LamoilleSchoolMeals.com](http://www.LamoilleSchoolMeals.com)

## **OPERATIONS/FACILITIES/CLEANING PROTOCOLS**

Lamoille North is committed to maintaining clean and healthy school environments for our students and staff members. To this end, Lamoille North schools will engage in frequent cleaning throughout the day per State regulations regarding cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting. To ensure that our school buildings and facilities are properly cleaned each day, all staff will be provided with training and cleaning supplies to implement procedures that will result in our buildings and facilities being maintained at the necessary levels of cleanliness. Special attention will be paid to high-touch surfaces including door handles, light switches, and bathrooms. Students, other than our youngest ones, will wipe down their own work area and seats several times a day. Facilities Director, Dylan Laflam, has implemented the following cleaning procedures for our buildings:

## **Lamoille North District Cleaning Standards Procedure**

### 1.0 Scope:

- 1.1 The procedure outlines the recommended custodial cleaning standards for all spaces within the Lamoille North School District facilities.
- 1.2 All cleaning standards are based on the 2015 Association of Physical Plant Administrators (APPA).
- 1.3 All spaces outside of restrooms should receive level 3 APPA custodial standards with current recommended staffing levels. Restrooms should receive a level 2 APPA custodial standard.

### 2.0 Responsibility:

- 2.1 All custodial staff.
- 2.2 Custodial staff should report all broken or damaged items to maintenance.
- 2.3 All lost or left behind items should be returned to the office or following your school lost and found procedures. At no time should items be discarded or taken.

### 3.0 Approval Authority:

- 3.1 Second Shift Work Group leader (LU campus only)
- 3.2 Maintenance Coordinators
- 3.3 Facility Director
- 3.4 Building Principal
- 3.5 LNSU Business Manager

### 4.0 Definitions/Approved Product List:

- 4.1 Power Scrub – the use of a walk-behind or ride-on floor scrubber
- 4.2 High Speed Burnish – to use a hand or ride-on auto burnisher; high-speed polishing of hard surface floors
- 4.3 District approved disinfectant:
  - 1: Enviro-Solutions 64H, 10-minute contact time, EPA reg. # 1839-169
  - 2: Swish, Miracle disinfectant, 10-minute contact time, EPA reg. # 1839-83
  - 3: Clorox disinfecting bio-stain, five-minute contact time. EPA reg. # 67619-33
  - 4: Clorox Total 360, two-minute contact time, EPA reg. # 67619-38
  - 5: Purell Surface Sanitizer, one-minute contact time EPA reg. # 84368-1
  - 6: Pur-One, one-minute contact time, EPA reg. #71847-7

### 5.0 Procedure: **Restrooms**

- 5.1 Empty trash cans and sanitary napkin cans - daily
- 5.2 Inspect trash cans and napkin holders and clean as needed
- 5.3 Sweep/dust mop floors - daily
- 5.4 With a toilet brush, bucket, and Huskey 302 bowl cleaner disinfectant, swab all urinals and toilets - daily. Flush toilet after cleaning.
- 5.5 Wipe down and disinfect all areas of sinks, toilets and urinals - daily
- 5.6 Spot clean/disinfect all stall and tile walls - daily
- 5.7 Clean mirrors - daily
- 5.8 Check and refill soap, paper towels, toilet paper - daily

- 5.9 Disinfect all entrance and exit door handles - daily
- 5.10 Wet Mop with disinfectant – daily, changing pail water before any other spaces
- 5.11 Clean and disinfect all stall and tile walls - weekly
- 5.12 Wipe down all doors - weekly

**6.0 Procedure: Locker room areas**

- 6.1 Empty all trash - daily
- 6.2 Sweep all floors and shower area - daily
- 6.3 Clean all restroom areas per restroom cleaning standards - daily
- 6.4 Clean and disinfect drinking fountains - daily
- 6.5 Mop or power scrub floors and shower area - daily
- 6.6 Shut and lock doors, windows and turn off lights when finished - daily
- 6.7 Clean locker tops - weekly
- 6.8 Clean all benches/seating area and disinfect - weekly
- 6.9 Clean and disinfect shower walls - monthly

**7.0 Procedure: Gymnasium**

- 7.1 Empty and clean all trash and recycling - daily
- 7.2 Dust/mop the floor at least twice daily, once after PE classes (or when conducive for daily programming) and once at the end of the night
- 7.3 Power scrub floors, (use Super-Shine, All for wood floors) - daily. White pads should be used until after basketball season
- 7.4 Clean and disinfect drinking fountains - daily
- 7.5 Sweep off and under the bleachers whenever they are pulled out; if bleachers are not wall mounted but mobile sweep under - weekly
- 7.6 Spot mop the bleachers whenever they are pulled out; if bleachers are not wall mounted but mobile spot mop - weekly
- 7.7 Hand mop the edges - weekly
- 7.8 Spot clean the walls – monthly

**8.0 Procedure: Auditorium, stages, performing art centers, CEC**

- 8.1 Empty all trashes and recycling - daily
- 8.2 Sweep or dust mop all hard surface floors daily, this includes around and under fixed seating
- 8.3 Vacuum wall-to-wall carpeted areas daily, this includes around and under fixed or set up furniture
- 8.4 Spot mop - daily
- 8.5 Power scrub or mop stage floors - daily
- 8.6 Spot clean walls - daily
- 8.7 Spot clean all dedicated furniture, this includes both fixed and mobile chairs and tables - daily
- 8.8 Shut and lock doors, windows and turn off lights when finished - daily
- 8.9 Clean all mirrors - weekly

Clean and disinfect all dedicated furniture, this includes both fixed and mobile chairs and tables (LU should have the auditorium seat backs cleaned and disinfected in this schedule) - monthly

9.0 Procedure: **Foyers, Corridors, Hallways**

- 9.1 Empty trash and recycling containers, inspect and spot clean - daily
- 9.2 Sweep and dust mop daily, this includes the threshold plate of all entrance doors
- 9.3 Vacuum all entrance matting/carpeting - daily
- 9.4 Clean and disinfect all drinking fountains - daily
- 9.5 Spot clean all entrance doors and door glass, disinfect all door handles, panic bars or push plates - daily
- 9.6 Power scrub floors - daily
- 9.7 Hand mop edges (prior to power scrubbing) - weekly
- 9.8 High-speed burnish - weekly
- 9.9 Clean all interior windows (door and corridor) – weekly
- 9.10 Dust all hall way window sills - weekly or as needed
- 9.11 Check for and remove cob webs, shut fire door and clean behind, remove all black marks - weekly

10.0 Procedure: **Stairs wells and Elevator**

- 10.1 Vacuum/sweep stairs - daily
- 10.2 Vacuum elevator - daily
- 10.3 Remove all stored items from stairwells - daily
- 10.4 Spot mop - daily
- 10.5 Spot clean and disinfect walls and railings - daily
- 10.6 Spot clean glass - daily
- 10.7 Clean and disinfect walls and railings - weekly
- 10.8 Clean glass - weekly
- 10.9 Wet mop edges (prior to power scrub) - weekly
- 10.10 Wet mop and/or power scrub - weekly

11.0 Procedure: **Classroom and Libraries**

- 11.1 Empty all trash cans, inspect and spot clean and place back where found - daily; classrooms should have no more than a maximum of two trash cans
- 11.2 Empty all recycle bins and place back where found (unless there is a student-run recycling program on your campus) – daily; classrooms should have no more than a maximum of two recycle bins
- 11.3 Sweep all hard surface floors, this includes moving student chairs and desks/tables - daily
- 11.4 Vacuum carpets wall to wall – daily, area rugs should be vacuumed - weekly
- 11.5 Spot mop - daily
- 11.6 Spot clean door glass - daily
- 11.7 Clean and disinfect door handles - daily
- 11.8 Check paper towel and soap dispensers - daily, fill as needed

- 11.9 Shut and lock classroom doors, windows and turn off lights when finished  
- daily
- 11.10 Clean all glass - weekly
- 11.11 Clean and disinfect sinks and counter tops - weekly
- 11.12 Dust classrooms - monthly
- 11.13 Clean and disinfect tables and desks - monthly, or as needed
- 11.14 Move furniture and power scrub - monthly
- 12.0 Procedure: Office and Office Suite Areas**
  - 12.1 Empty all trash cans, inspect, and spot clean and place back where found  
- daily, offices should have no more than one trash can
  - 12.2 Empty all recycle bins and place back where found - daily, offices should  
have no more than one recycle bin
  - 12.3 Sweep hard surface floors including under desks and behind doors - daily
  - 12.4 Vacuum all carpeted areas, wall to wall, including under desks and behind  
doors - daily
  - 12.5 Spot clean doors, door glass and window glass - daily
  - 12.6 Shut and lock office/suite doors, windows and turn off lights when finished  
- daily
  - 12.7 Clean and disinfect doors, door glass and window glass - weekly,  
including window sills
  - 12.8 Clean and disinfect exposed counter tops and tables – weekly, or as  
needed
- 13.0 Procedure: Cafeteria and Kitchen areas**
  - 13.1 Empty and clean all trash, recycling, and compost containers - daily
  - 13.2 Clean and disinfect all tables - daily
  - 13.3 Sweep/dust mop all floors - daily
  - 13.4 Spot clean walls - daily
  - 13.5 Spot clean all glass - daily
  - 13.6 Power scrub or wet mop all floors (kitchen floors should be cleaned with a  
degreaser) - daily
  - 13.7 Shut and lock doors, windows and turn off lights when finished - daily
  - 13.8 Wet mop edges (prior to power scrubbing) - weekly
  - 13.9 Clean all glass - weekly
- 14.0 SARS-CoV-2 Disinfecting Procedures:** These are to be added to the  
daily/weekly/monthly custodial procedures.
  - 14.1 All hard surface mopping/scrubbing should be done with a disinfectant
  - 14.2 Bathroom high-touch areas will be cleaned once an hour while students  
are present in the building. This includes, but not limited to, the entrance and  
exit door handles/push plates, bathroom stall handles, latches and push  
plates, flush handles, faucets, soap dispensers, paper towel or hand drier  
levers/buttons and all handicap bars.

- 14.3 All common area/pass-thru high touch areas will be disinfected between each schedule change. This includes all handrails, door handles, push bars and push plates.
- 14.4 All classroom desks/tables will get disinfected and wiped during the evening custodial routines.
- 14.5 Isolation rooms must be disinfected after each use as well as at least once daily.

### **Communal Spaces and Large Group Activities and Public Use of Schools**

Large group activities will conform to the maximum number allowed by current Vermont guidance, currently 50 outside and 25 inside. Group activities with the potential to generate increased respiratory droplets and aerosols will be avoided. This includes activities such as singing and music that involves woodwind or brass instruments.

The public may use school grounds, but may not use school buildings, including restrooms.

Signs will be posted requiring the wearing of facial coverings and physical distancing. During our Afterschool Programs, playgrounds will be closed to the public and only available for students enrolled and participating in District afterschool programs.

### **Student Teachers**

Student teachers will be present in Lamoille North schools this year. The District is working closely with our partner colleges and universities to ensure that student teachers meet the necessary health and safety precautions. All student teachers must undergo the LNSU employee onboarding process and training, and will be required to complete daily health screenings, as well as adhere to all precautions/directives as outlined in this, and future, guidance.

### **Volunteers, Visitors, Field Trips**

No outside visitors or volunteers will be allowed in the schools this year, except for employees or contracted service providers for the purpose of special education, required support services or others as authorized by the school or district.

Field trips are only allowed if we can maintain all health guidance, as well as guidance from the Agency of Commerce and Community Development. There will be no out of state, international or overnight field trips for the 2020-2021 school year until further notice.

### **Building Considerations/Modifications**

Lamoille North has carefully examined all of our buildings and facilities to ensure that they comply with federal and state guidelines related to providing safe and healthy school environments for our students, staff, and community members. The district is making many modifications to our schools, facilities, and offices to provide healthy

spaces for all. Following are examples of changes or adjustments we are making to meet federal and state standards and guidance:

- Ensuring that our school and facility heating and ventilation systems are properly cleaned and meet all required operating standards per manufacturer.
- Ensuring ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air.
- Setting classroom capacity limits to ensure proper social distancing that are aligned with guidance from federal and state authorities.
- Removing furniture and other items from classrooms to provide open space for social distancing.
- Installing plexiglass barriers to allow for wellness, provision of special services, closer student support, and visibility.
- Replacing commonly used soft-cushioned furniture with hard-surface furniture to allow for surface cleaning.
- Posting signage that directs movement, provides reference points for proper social distancing, instructions for proper handwashing, and other important information and direction.
- Modifying school schedules to maximize learning time and provide for social distancing.
- Repurposing our gymnasiums, auditoriums, and cafeterias.
- Moving breakfast and lunch to classrooms.
- Raising tents at some school and program sites to allow for outdoor classroom instruction.
- Suspending large gatherings until the COVID-19 crisis has passed.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

At this time, limited bus transportation is being offered, when and where feasible, to K-12 students participating in hybrid learning at Lamoille North schools.

We will be providing bus transportation for grades K-12 as long as we can meet all safety guidelines. Many factors will determine the ability to offer busing, including but not limited to, road conditions, bus driver and bus monitor availability, and the number of students requesting bus transportation.

Students and families are encouraged to use alternate transportation to get to school due to diminished numbers of allowable riders on our buses. This is one reason we have decided to implement an alternating day, hybrid schedule. With fewer students riding the bus, we can better ensure bus transportation for students with no other option.

All districts across Vermont are facing the same issue around student density on public transportation; therefore, there are no “extra” buses, drivers, and monitors available to us. We are, therefore, asking all families to consider any other way to get students to

and from school if at all possible before choosing the bus: walking, biking, driving, or carpooling with any others in your school pod.

- We can offer only one morning pickup location per student, and one afternoon drop off location (can be different from morning pickup) per student – no exceptions
- There will be No PreK transportation
- There will be No late afternoon runs
- All students, staff, and visitors **must have** a **Daily Health Check** at the first point of contact
- Students, staff, and visitors who do not clear the Daily Health Check will not be permitted to board buses or enter the buildings
- All students must have an adult available and present with them until they have been cleared to board the bus or enter the buildings
- Bus monitors will ride morning bus routes to perform Health Checks, assign seating, and ensure compliance with proper use of face coverings and assigned seating
- Students are required to wear masks/appropriate face coverings while riding the bus
- Students will have assigned seating
- Anytime, for any morning route/run, that there is not a bus monitor available, that morning route/run will be canceled
- **Students not clearing the Daily Health Check will not be permitted to board buses**

**If you are interested in busing for your student, you can find a request for transportation on the LNSU website under the transportation tab. Our ability to transport your student will depend on driver and monitor availability.**

**APPENDIX A:** Please see below a series of answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) and Agency of Education Memos.

### **Agency of Education Updates**

[A Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools FAQ 1: Physical Distancing](#) Updated 9/9/20

[A Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools FAQ 2: Quarantine and Staying Home When Sick](#)

[A Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools FAQ 3: Instructional Practices](#)

[A Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools FAQ 4: Child Nutrition Services](#)

[A Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools FAQ 5: Face Masks and PPE](#)

[A Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools FAQ 6: Cleaning and Sanitation](#)

[A Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools FAQ 7: Physical Education](#)

[A Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools FAQ 8: HVAC](#)

[Hygienic and Social Distancing Considerations Regarding COVID-19 for Students with Disabilities Returning to In-Person Education](#)

[A Strong and Healthy Start: Reopening and Assessment](#)

[Fall Sports Programs for the 2020-2021 School Year \(Updated 9/2\)](#)

[Strong and Healthy Start: Safety and Health Guidance for Vermont Schools](#)

[A Strong and Healthy Start: Social, Emotional and Mental Health Supports During COVID-19](#)