

Leeds Public School

District #6

Health and Safety Plan

HEALTH AND SAFETY STRATEGIES

Throughout the pandemic, Leeds Public School (LPS) has prioritized the health and safety of our students and staff during the return to in-person instruction. The goal of LPS is to provide a healthy school environment to foster greater academic achievement and healthier lives for our students and staff.

Leeds Public School has adopted policies and practices related to each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC. Below is a description of safety strategies we utilize.

Universal wearing of masks:

Masks are not required at this time. Students, staff, and visitors will continue to have the option to wear masks as a mitigation strategy for COVID-19.

Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing:

Leeds Public School will continue to monitor the transmission of COVID-19 in school facilities and work to reduce transmittable moments as needed.

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:

Stations are available throughout the school that include hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes or spray, along with adult and children disposable masks. Coughing and sneezing into a tissue or sleeve, proper disposal of used tissues and proper handwashing are stressed to students and staff. Postage and signage will continue to be used throughout the school.

Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities:

Daily sanitizing and disinfecting practices of the school building and buses continue. High touch areas will be disinfected throughout the school day.

Students that are ill

Students and staff who are sick should not attend school or any school events. Parents are responsible for determining if their child is ill before sending them to school. The daily health checklist should include:

- Check for fever
- Check for cough
- Check for headache
- Check for smell
- Check for taste

Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities:

Leeds Public School will work in coordination with Benson County Public Health to provide opportunities to receive appropriate vaccinations.

Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities:

The school was not made aware of any students with disabilities who needed specific accommodation related to our health and safety measures. However, we will make all the necessary accommodations if the need arises.

Leeds Public School works in conjunction with Lake Region Special Education (LRSE) to make educational decisions for students with IEPs on an individual basis in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and ND Department of Instruction office of Special Education Guidelines. Case managers and school teams will meet to collaborate with parents/guardians on an individual education plan (IEP) for their child. The team will work together to develop plans that will ensure equitable and effective access to provide FAPE for students with special needs in all learning environments.

Special Education case managers will be the contact person for communication between each IEP student's parents/guardian and required team members and will monitor the continuation of services and accommodations.

Coordination with state and local health officials:

Leeds Public School collaborates with Benson County Public Health and other local health departments, that work directly with the North Dakota Department of Health and the CDC for our COVID-19 guidance.

CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

Leeds School District has taken and will continue to take actions to ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to, addressing students' academic needs and students' and staffs' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs.

Academics:

Full-time distance learning is NOT an option. North Dakota Department of Public Instruction has discontinued this practice unless schools set up a virtual academy which LPS is not doing. All learning will be in-person at LPS.

Leeds Public School is utilizing a variety of sources, including state and local assessments, to identify learning gaps in mathematics and literacy.

Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs:

Student mental health has been on the forefront of our continuous improvement plan and following the pandemic. Below is a list of what we have put in place and/or will continue to implement for students' social, emotional, and mental health needs.

- Social worker available in-person one day a week for students and available as needed for assistance
- Permanent part-time guidance counselor during the school year
- Social Emotional Curriculum was purchased and will be implemented beginning in the 2021-2022 school year
- Targeted discussions of student needs at staff meetings
- Student mentoring opportunities throughout the year

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The Leeds Public School plan was developed in collaboration with staff, parents, and community input along with guidance from the Benson County Public Health Department and CDC. Throughout the development of the plan, stakeholders provided input through virtual sessions, meetings, and surveys.

PERIODIC REVIEW AND REVISION OF PLAN

During the period of the ARP ESSER award (until September 2024), Leeds Public School will periodically review and revise, as needed, its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The plan will be reviewed at least every six months, and the school will seek and consider public input during the review process. Plan revisions will address updated CDC guidance on schools remaining open if any are issued.