Roadmap to Reopening

Lee’s Summit R-7 Schools

Fall 2020

Updated Aug. 6, 2020
As we prepare for the 2020-21 school year, we know addressing the global pandemic requires flexibility.

Our plans are multi-faceted and aim to deliver as many in-person instruction days as we can safely provide, reinforce our learning environments with additional health and safety measures, utilize back-up plans for when all or some of our school community cannot meet safely and provide alternative options for families who for medical or personal reasons need to learn outside of buildings this year.

Whether we are learning from home or in our school buildings this fall, know that the following principles will serve as our roadmap as we prepare for the 2020-21 school year:

- Ensuring health and safety for our students and staff as we strive to provide effective, meaningful and engaging education.
- Supporting students on all fronts by meeting their unique academic, social-emotional, developmental and physical needs.
- Upholding transparency by communicating clearly and consistently.
- Continuing the work we do to reduce barriers for students, including students who experience other at-risk factors when they are not in our schools.
- Embracing flexibility, adaptability and resilience as we prepare to navigate uncertain and evolving scenarios this fall.

To address the unknown ways COVID-19 will impact our school community this fall, LSR7 has prepared multiple scenarios to provide learning, in addition to developing an all-online option for families.

This fall, parents will choose between two options.

1. In-Person Option

The district flows between three instructional models that aim to offer in-person instruction in the way public health officials believe will keep students and staff the safest at the time. Depending on public health guidance, LSR7 will select which instructional model from which all LSR7 “in-person” students will learn.

Full-Time In-Person

Students receive traditional instruction in school buildings each day that have been reinforced with health and safety protocols to limit risk for students and staff to the greatest extent possible. LSR7 schools create as much space between students and staff as possible, while acknowledging that the district cannot ensure six feet of social distance in every situation.

Hybrid*

Students will be assigned to A or B groups that attend school in-person two days a week on a Monday/Tuesday or Thursday/Friday schedule. All students receive instruction virtually on Wednesdays and complete independent work at home for the two remaining days. On Wednesdays, buses and buildings will be deep-cleaned and sanitized.

*Per Jackson County Health Department Guidance

Virtual*

Students will receive instruction virtually, accessing learning and assignments using district-issued Chromebooks and Schoology.

*Per Jackson County Health Department Guidance

2. All-Online Option

Whether it be for medical reasons or personal choice, this option is for families who feel their child will be best served through an all-online environment that allows them to learn from home.

R-7 Online Academy

PK-12 elementary and secondary programs will be offered through an expanded R-7 Online Academy. In-person extracurriculars are still available. Grading/instruction mirrors in-person model; delivered through Schoology and/or Edgenuity.

The district will give families another opportunity to declare whether they would like to opt-in to the in-person or all-online pathways this semester from Aug. 7-10. Find the declaration form in the PowerSchool parent portal.

To the Reader: This document should be read with caution as it is a guide for LSR7 decision-making in response to COVID-19 and changing directives from local, state, and federal officials. This plan is a roadmap, knowing that orders and guidance will change. As we have seen in the last several months, there may be circumstances that we cannot predict which will require the district to adjust based on new information.
**LSR7 2020-21 School Year**

The Health Department says we’re experiencing significant community spread and opening our schools to our full student body is not safe. LSR7 is preparing to implement the following scenarios and will make a final decision on Aug. 25.

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**Virtual**

*if significant community spread continues*

**Why:** With the first day of school now Sept. 8, 2020 for both in-person and R-7 Online Academy students, we will continue to communicate with the Jackson County Health Department throughout the month of August.

**Unless there is a significant improvement in community spread in the next few weeks, we will begin the school year by providing virtual instruction for all grade levels.**

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**In-Person**

*grade levels will not necessarily move to in-person learning at the same time*

**Grades PK-3:** In-Person Learning Model

**Why:** Public health guidance indicates that children under 10 do not transmit COVID-19 as effectively as older children and adults. We also know that our youngest students are not developmentally ready for self-guided work and that social distancing measures are easier to implement at an elementary level. In an effort to safely meet the instructional needs of our youngest learners:

- All PK-3rd grade students report to school each day.
- Class sizes are maintained around 18 to make social distancing possible.
- Handwashing and other health protocols are built into the school day.
- Students and staff meet mask-wearing and social distancing expectations.

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**Grades 4-12:** Hybrid Learning Model

**Why:** Health data suggests that young people are contracting COVID-19 in higher numbers and can transmit the illness to adult populations. A hybrid model will allow students to receive some in-person instruction and help reduce class sizes, promote social distancing and provide greater protection for staff members until we can learn safely in our buildings full-time again.

- Students are divided into A and B groups based on their last names. Siblings will be grouped together.
- “A” group receives in-person instruction on Monday/Tuesday; “B” group on Thursday/Friday.
- On Wednesdays, buildings and buses are deep-cleaned and sanitized, while students receive virtual instruction from home.
- Students complete independent work from home on two remaining days.
- Students and staff meet mask-wearing and social distancing expectations while in buildings.

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Lee’s Summit R-7 Schools
Roadmap to Reopening
Fall 2020

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* If significant community spread continues

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All R-7 Online Academy students continue online learning through Jan. 21, 2021, the end of our first semester.
Defining Our Fall 2020 Instructional Models

**Instructional Model Definitions:**

**In-Person:** Face-to-face learning is an instructional method where course content and learning material are taught in-person to a group of students. This allows for a live interaction between a learner and an instructor.

**Hybrid:** A blended approach to traditional education in which grade-level cohorts are divided into two groups (A & B). Each group receives two days of in-person instruction (i.e. M/T and Th/F), two days of independent practice from home and a fifth day of virtual instruction (W) with access to an instructor from home.

**Virtual:** This is most commonly thought of as distance learning where the teacher delivers the district’s curriculum, content and learning material through the use of internet technology. When we refer to “virtual” learning, we mean learning that is delivered electronically because we are not able to meet in-person.

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**What factors will LSR7 consider to move to in-person instruction?**

We will collaborate closely with the Jackson County Health Department in considering when we can learn in our buildings at partial or full capacity. While the JCHD has not created gating criteria or a matrix regarding return to in-person instruction, leaders have shared that they will consider a broad scope of information, including cases per 1000, hospitalizations, testing, community outbreaks and positivity rates, as they provide guidance on learning in-person.

**What factors will LSR7 consider to move to all-virtual instruction?**

Public health officials have determined that the Kansas City metro area is experiencing significant community spread due to reported cases and positivity rates. Officials recommended that the district delay starting school until Sept. 8 to see if conditions improve. Public health officials also say that school districts should be prepared to implement all-virtual instruction if community spread has not improved by Sept. 8.

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**Online/R-7 Online Academy:** Online instruction is a formal educational process in which a pre-designed curriculum is provided. The instruction occurs when the learner and the instructor are not in the same place and internet technology is used to provide a communication link among the instructor and students. When we refer to “online” learning, we are referring to our R-7 Online Academy program.
A Day in the Life of an R-7 Online Student

Through the R-7 Online Academy, students access LSR7 curriculum, and the rigorous expectations and robust instruction of LSR7 teachers. Curriculum for all grade levels is aligned with the Missouri Learning Standards set forth by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. R-7 Online Academy students will receive learning, including live instruction, self-paced lessons and independent work via an online platform (either Schoology, our learning management system, or Google Meet). The amount of time spent in each type of learning will vary by grade level and content area, and range from four to six hours per day.

Elementary

A typical day might begin by participating in a class meeting with peers, then continuing the school day with whole-group instruction in core content areas, a virtual class on music, art or PE, and a small group work session. Students will receive one-on-one instruction and feedback from teachers, as well as time to practice skills and/or work independently.

Middle School

A typical day might begin by joining specific classes at specific times for real-time instruction, then moving on to self-paced learning assignments and activities that might be done independently or in small groups. The times that students are expected to join class in real time could potentially align to a schedule that follows closely to an in-person schedule. Teachers will still keep office hours for students needing additional support.

High School

A typical day provides students flexibility to complete coursework outside of a regular school day schedule. Students will still have opportunities to connect with their teachers and classmates in real-time to receive guidance, direct instruction or collaborate on assignments. There could be times when a real-time meeting is required by the teacher and students are expected to participate. High school students enrolled in R-7 Online should expect to give the same level of commitment to their learning that would be expected of attending school in-person.
### FALL 2020

**R-7 Online Academy**

- Planned, structured and organized content.
- Teachers are deliberately and thoughtfully creating opportunities for students to receive instruction, get questions answered, and to provide students an opportunity to check in with the teacher.
- Content is delivered using a wide variety of media including (but not limited to) videos, images, interactive web resources and live events.
- A strong balance of self-paced and real-time learning activities for the entire class, small groups and/or individual students.
- Clearly communicated student expectations, schedule and routines. Students will complete assignments, projects, and assessments the same as if they were attending class face-to-face.

### SPRING 2020

**Remote Virtual Learning**

- Used as an immediate way to get information to students.
- Learning was provided to respond to unprecedented school closures; it was not the result of a planned, proactive initiative to provide for students’ academic and social/emotional needs.
- Content was “text-heavy” through online worksheets, reading passages and discussion-board conversations. There was a limit to how interactive materials could be.
- All school work was posted in advance and students worked on it whenever they wanted. There was less of an expectation of students being online at specific times throughout the day.
- Students had more leeway to be present at online class meetings, turn classwork in on time and complete projects on a specific timeline.
R-7 Online Academy Parent Expectations and Commitments

- I will remain in regular communication with the teacher for clarity on procedures, schedule, synchronous online meetings, or any other items pertinent to the success of my child.

- I will schedule regular school time for my child to focus on schoolwork during school hours and understand there may be specific times my child is required to be in meetings and group discussions with other students and the teacher.

- I understand our commitment to online learning is for a minimum of one semester. Any requests to return to in-person learning during that semester will be considered by LSR7 on an individual basis.

- I will hold my child accountable for his/her online behavior.

- I will create a designated space for school work that is distraction-free and conducive to learning, especially for live online group discussions and class meetings.

- I am committed to understanding the Schoology environment and will access the Navigating Schoology for Parents course as needed.

- I am committed to helping my child understand their Chromebook, Schoology, and other necessary online resources they may need to use for their learning.

- I understand from time to time there may be materials that need to be picked from my child's school to assist them in completing learning activities.

- I understand there may be set times every day that my child will be expected to be online for live class events.

- I understand that assessment drives the instruction my child receives, and I will make sure my student completes assessments free from outside influences or distractions.
Family Survey
Here’s What We Learned

The Fall Reopening Family Survey was sent to the parents or guardians of LSR7’s nearly 18,000 students (roughly 10K family units) on June 25 and remained open for one week. We received 7,800 responses.

*See lsr7.org/survey for full survey results.*

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Uncertain</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5,492</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>298</td>
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*If possible, do you plan on sending your student(s) to in-person school this August?*

**Notable Takeaways**

- 71% Respondents who indicated they plan on sending student(s) to in-person school this August.
- 85% Of respondents who answered “no” or “uncertain”, 85% expressed interest in LSR7’s all-online option.
- 72% Respondents who indicated they are “extremely comfortable” or “somewhat comfortable” having students return to buildings this fall if schools adopt public health and safety guidelines.

**Top Three Concerns**

1. Larger-scale gatherings (cafeterias, assemblies, etc.)
2. Cleanliness/sanitization of classrooms
3. Limited ability to socially distance in a classroom

**Desired Safety Measures**

1. Daily cleaning and sanitization of classrooms and gathering places.
2. Readily available sanitizing supplies
3. Home symptoms check of students/employees

Staff Survey
Here’s What We Learned

The Fall Reopening Staff Survey was sent to 2,800 LSR7 staff members on June 25 and remained open for one week. We received nearly 1,600 responses.

*See lsr7.org/survey for full survey results.*

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<th>Yes</th>
<th>Uncertain</th>
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<tr>
<td>1,419</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>147</td>
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*If public health officials believe it is safe to allow in-person instruction, and if schools adopt required or recommended public health and safety guidelines, are you planning on returning?*

**Notable Takeaways**

- 55% Percentage of respondents who were teachers.
- 90% Staff respondents who indicated intentions to return to school if public health and safety guidelines are implemented.
- 0.6% Staff respondents who indicated they would separate from the district if in-person instruction occurred in the fall.

**Top Three Concerns**

1. Limited ability to social distance in a classroom/work site
2. Larger-scale gatherings (cafeteria, assemblies)
3. Cleanliness/sanitization of classrooms/work sites

**Desired Safety Measures**

1. Daily cleaning and sanitization of classrooms and gathering spaces
2. Readily available sanitizing supplies
3. Implementing social distancing protocols when possible
Frequently Asked Questions

Will there be another opportunity to change Fall 2020 instructional options before the school year begins?

The Fall 2020 declaration form will once again be available for families in the PowerSchool parent portal from Aug. 7-10.

Is the Fall 2020 instruction declaration the same thing as Registration?

No. Registration is the yearly process in which families let LSR7 know they are returning to the district and update student and parent information. Families are expected to complete the Fall 2020 declaration form and the Registration process.

Can students still participate in extracurricular activities and/or sports in-person as R-7 Online Academy students?

Yes, you can still participate with your regular school if those activities are being permitted by the district and/or county.

Can families switch to online or in-person learning tracks in the middle of the semester?

We are asking all families who select R-7 Online Academy families to commit to all-online learning through the end of the first semester: Jan. 21, 2021. We will work through extenuating circumstances with families and anticipate being able to enroll in-person students into R-7 Online Academy on a case-by-case basis.

If individual or district-wide school closures prompt virtual learning, how will that learning be different from our spring instruction?

LSR7 teachers will continue to use the Schoology platform and other digital tools to deliver curriculum, content and learning materials. However, virtual learning this year will refocus on curriculum, meeting key targets and more rigorous expectations of work and engagement, in addition to the emphasis on connection and well-being that was a top priority in the spring.

Where can I find a comprehensive list of R-7 Online Academy courses?

A list of the online courses that R-7 Online Academy will provide can be found here. Secondary students who cannot replicate their current schedule will have the opportunity to enroll in other online courses or switch to the in-person track after Aug. 10.

Can families choose a combination of online and in-person classes?

At this time we are not allowing students to choose a combination of R-7 Online Academy and in-person classes. However, we will continue to explore options to provide high-demand courses in various formats.

Will our online or virtual options replicate the bell schedule of an in-person day at school?

While we understand that many families would like to see online or virtual instruction mirror the bell schedule of the school day, video conferencing uses significant Internet data, and impacts each of our families and staff members differently depending on their data plans or ability to access the Internet. While real-time learning will be a part of our offerings, the district will use recordings and other digital tools to give students options when it comes to accessing lessons, especially at the high school level.

To review more FAQs, visit lsr7.org/reopening.
**Health and safety remains a top priority in all of our plans.**

The Lee’s Summit R-7 School District will continue to implement the most up-to-date guidance from local and state public health and education officials.

While we know that safety recommendations may evolve and change, we plan to implement the following health and safety protocols to make our learning environments as safe as possible for our students and staff.

**Masks**

Currently, per executive order, Jackson County has required all individuals five years old and older to wear masks in indoor and outdoor spaces. LSR7 will comply with any mask mandate ordered by the county. However, this is an area of evolving guidance, and LSR7 will continue to shape plans based on Jackson County Health Department direction. Throughout the 2020-21 school year, we anticipate that masks will continue to be required for some or all of the school or work day. Current guidance allows exceptions for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, children younger than five and people with a specific medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering.

**Social Distancing**

- Encourage students and staff to physically distance as much as possible
- Distance seating as much as possible
- Use plexiglass dividers and tables to promote physical distance in front offices
- Use colored tape and other visual markers to indicate six feet of distance when possible

**Promoting Preventative Practices**

- Post signage throughout schools to promote social distancing
- Incorporate handwashing procedures into the school day when possible
- Display signage promoting proper handwashing procedures
- Educate students and staff on proper handwashing and mask-wearing protocols
- Students and staff will wash hands with soap for twenty seconds

**Health Screenings**

- Families and staff members conduct at-home symptom checks prior to arriving at school or work
- Thermometers will be accessible to teachers, who may conduct temperature checks of students at school
- Daily temperature checks will not be performed as they could create congestion that prompts a greater risk of exposure
- Temperature checks will occur prior to any student or staff member entering the health room; those with a fever over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will be served in a separate area

**School Environment**

- Spread out seating as much as possible to create as much physical distance between students and staff as possible
- Eliminate combination classes and events
- Remove “comfortable” classroom items – i.e. pillows, blankets, etc.
- Eliminate choice seating within the classroom
- Go outdoors for instruction during small parts of the day, if possible
- Provide classrooms with cleaning and disinfecting supplies
- Provide staff with health and safety kits, including hand sanitizer and masks
- Determine large events (i.e. concerts, plays, sporting events, etc.) in conjunction with county and district guidance

**Cleaning**

- Custodial staff will assist with cleaning efforts throughout the school day
- Custodial staff will disinfect and deep clean classrooms, restrooms, health rooms and isolation rooms nightly, and provide extra sanitization of desk tops, light switches, door hardware etc.
- Staff members will disinfect high touch areas
surfaces between classes
- Desktops and tables will be sanitized before and after eating lunch
- The district will ensure the availability of soap and paper towels in restrooms as well as disinfecting supplies in classrooms and school spaces
- Disinfecting wipes will be used on copiers and keypads following use
- Buses will be deep-cleaned nightly; bus drivers will disinfect buses between routes
- Additional cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing efforts will be swiftly deployed to areas where a confirmed case has been reported

Student/Staff Movement
- Adjust lunch and recess schedule to limit mingling of classrooms
- Require direct movement to class
- Stagger recess times and recess play locations
- Utilize one-way hallway traffic patterns when possible
- Use of multiple entrances to avoid large gatherings of students
- Modify arrival and dismissal procedures
- Incorporate time into schedule for sanitizing classrooms and washing hands
- Prop open door handles when possible

Health Protocols
- Educate students on proper prevention techniques (mask-wearing, handwashing etc.)
- Expect parents and staff to complete at-home screenings (See page 15)
- Conduct temperature screening, per public health guidance
- Create a supervised, isolated area for the care of students who are ill; separate from spaces where students seek health support for general needs
- Require mask-wearing and assigned seating on school buses
- Provide masks and other PPE (such as gloves) to staff as needed
- Require staff to limit the number of people in break rooms, conference rooms etc. to those that can socially distance in that space

Visitors to School
- Hold parent events, including conferences, virtually
- Limit school visitors
- Install plexiglass as a barrier to protect front-office staff
- Enforce health and safety protocols for all visitors and volunteers

PPE
- Students and staff will be provided with two cloth masks each
- Staff will be provided face shields/gloves/gowns and safety glasses as needed
- Personal cloth masks will be acceptable; personal masks are considered an article of clothing
- All students and staff will comply with county requirements/district policy regarding masks
- Students and staff will receive training on how to properly wear face coverings

For more health and safety guidelines, visit lsr7.org/reopening.
**Health and Safety: Elementary**

**Elementary Specials**
- Combination classes will be eliminated
- Specials schedules will be created with 35 minutes of instruction and 10 minutes in between specials to allow for sanitizing between classes
- Specials will move to a 3-week rotation rather than a 3-day rotation (1 week of music, 1 week of art, 1 week of PE)
- Strategic use of supplies as necessary

**Elementary Bands and Strings**
- Fifth-grade band and strings will be on hold for the first semester of the 2020-21 school year with a possible extension through the school year
- Sixth-grade band and strings will be provided in a virtual environment for both in-person and online-only students through a virtual Schoology course held after the regular school hours

**Traveling Teachers**
- Handwashing upon entering the next building
- Ensure building schedule is documented for contact tracing purposes if necessary

**Recess**
- Stagger recess times and recess play locations to only include one classroom of students
- Playground equipment will be open
- Students are encouraged to sanitize and/or wash hands prior to and at the end of recess
- Recess equipment will be issued for specific classroom rotations based on assigned location

**Supplies**
- Students will maintain personal supplies and resources rather than a collection of classroom supplies

**Meet Your Teacher/Curriculum Night/Parent Orientation**
- Back-to-School Parent Events (Meet Your Teacher, Curriculum Nights, Parent Orientation) will be done via video and/or virtually with an opportunity to connect with the teacher individually, if necessary
- Principals will work with families to provide an opportunity for parents to visit the building if they need to connect with the school prior to school building return

**Parent Teacher Conferences**
- Virtual conferences will be preferred
- Principals will work to support families desiring face-to-face time with teachers

**New Kindergarteners**
- Incoming kindergarten students will have a special time to arrive on the first day of school
- One parent will be able to walk them in if they are wearing a mask and keep their visit to a minimum

**Kindergarten Switch and Learn**
- Kindergarten screening and/or Switch and Learn will be modified to take place after the start of the school year
Specialized large class size courses (Choir, band, orchestra, etc.)
• Choir and band may provide options to split sections within the current staff, if possible, or move to large space or outdoor to allow for social distancing (due to aerosol projections and larger class sizes)
• Vocal and wind instruments practices will not occur if not socially distanced
• Orchestra should be able to continue playing, allowing for appropriate social-distancing
• Additional cleaning and sanitizing will occur for instruments and equipment

Specialized classes with high-touch items (Art, FACS, Ind. Tech, PE, Business/Science Lab, PLTW)
• Some labs and activities may be modeled and adjusted if high-touch items cannot be adequately cleaned
• Additional cleaning and sanitizing will occur after common items are used
• Masks will be worn for collaborative labs and/or activities

Student and staff school-sponsored travel (field trip, school travel)
• Local and in-state travel only
• Requests for approval need to go through a supervisor
• Determination to be made based on location and transmission rate of the area
• No overnight student travel
• Foreign-exchange students will still be accepted

Transition day
• Transition days may still occur with a shortened schedule and possibly through a hybrid model

Meet Your Teacher/ Curriculum Night/Parent Orientation
• Back-to-School Parent Events (Meet Your Teacher, Curriculum Nights, Parent Orientation) will be done via video and/or virtually with an opportunity to connect with the teacher individually, if necessary
• Principals will work with families to provide an opportunity for parents to visit the building if they need to connect with the school prior to school building return

Student experiences outside of schools (internships, teacher cadet program, A+)
• Student work experience programs will continue with proper handwashing and mask-wearing guidance
• Child Development Preschool class will continue but the on-site preschool will be suspended for first semester

Student community service hours (district policy)
• A Board request is going forward to waive the service hour graduation requirement for this year

School events (PTA events, homecoming, etc.)
• To begin the year, all school assemblies, PTA events and other large gatherings will be suspended; we will monitor county health guidelines to determine if they can be reinstated at a later date

Sports and activities (including before and after school activities)
• Concerts, plays, sporting events and other activities will be determined in alignment with county and district guidance
• Suburban Conference is working on conference-wide recommendations for crowd size, ticket sales, concessions, etc.
Keeping Each Other Safe

Whether at home or at school, here are health and safety tips we will practice in our buildings and encourage students and staff to engage in at home.

Always stay home if you are feeling sick.

Wash hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water is not available.

Avoid touching your face.

Clean and frequently disinfect items or areas that are touched often.

Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a tissue and properly dispose of the tissue in the trash. Always wash hands after coughing or sneezing.

Follow district expectations when it comes to mask-wearing and social distancing.
At-Home Screening Procedure

The screening of students and staff must begin at home. Parents should evaluate their child before school daily by taking their temperature, gauging how they are feeling, and by making sure that they can accurately answer no to all questions below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. Is your current temperature in excess of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Have you or anyone in your household had one high-risk symptom or two moderate-risk symptoms indicating COVID-19 in the last 14 days?</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>High-risk symptoms (1):</strong> cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Moderate-risk symptoms (2):</strong> fever, chills, muscle ache, headache, sore throat, loss of taste and smell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Has your student had a direct exposure to a positive COVID case in the last 14 days?</td>
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If a question can be answered yes, then the child should not be sent to school.

Families should then seek the guidance of a medical professional or Health Department for further direction. Communication will be sent prior to the start of school and as a periodic reminder.

No universal screening will occur at school. However, teachers will have access to thermometers and check students if they are presenting as ill prior to sending to the health room. If a student's temperature check reads equal to or in excess of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, the student will be accompanied by a nurse to a separate, precaution room to await parent pick-up. School nurses will discuss return-to-school criteria with parents.

All staff will be required to perform similar at-home screenings prior to reporting to work.
Return to School
Once a student or employee is isolated from the school environment, they may return if they satisfy the recommendations of the Jackson County Health Department.

If a student or staff member has been exposed to a positive COVID-19 case:

- The individual stays home from school/school activities/work
- If the individual does not develop symptoms, they stay home for 14 days from the last exposure to the COVID-19 case
- If the individual develops symptoms and does not get tested, they stay home until they are fever free (<100.4 without fever-reducing medications) for 24 hours; and 10 days after symptom onset; and other respiratory symptoms improve
- If the exposed individual gets tested, whether it is positive or negative, they stay home until fever free (<100.4 without fever-reducing medications) for 24 hours; and 10 days after symptom onset; and other respiratory symptoms improve
- The Health Department determines direct exposure.

If a student or staff member reports at least one high risk-symptom or two moderate-risk symptoms indicating COVID-19, that individual will stay home from school or work and follow the protocols in the chart below.

Moderate-risk symptoms (2):
- fever, chills, muscle ache, headache, sore throat, loss of taste and smell

or

High-risk symptoms (1):
- cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing

Have they been tested?

Yes
The individual will stay home from school/work while waiting for test results.

No

Positive
The individual will stay home until:
- Fever-free for 24 hours (<100.4 without fever-reducing medications); and
- 10 days after symptom(s) began; and
- Other respiratory symptoms improve
- The individual will need a medical release from their medical provider or the health department to return.

Exposed
The individual will stay home until:
- Fever-free for 24 hours (less than 100.4 without the use of fever-reducing medications); and/or other school individual exclusion policy.

Not Exposed

Negative
The Health Department will determine if the individual has been directly exposed to a confirmed or probable case.

*Health Department guidance as of August 6, 2020*
Student & Staff Well-being

LSR7 is committed to supporting the social-emotional health of our students, in addition to academic needs. As COVID-19 continues to impact our lives at home and at school, LSR7 will utilize intentional strategies to promote student well-being, strengthen relationships between students and staff and build safe and supportive learning environments, regardless of whether we are learning at school or virtually.

What Families Can Do to Support Our Staff and Each Other:

- Reinforce the importance of respecting the teachers and staff who care deeply about your student’s success.
- Talk to your student about the changes they will see at school and reinforce that following new health and safety measures will keep our school community safe.
- Reestablish daily routines for the school day, and incorporate exercise in a socially distanced way if possible.

LSR7 will support staff by:

- Providing professional development related to well-being and social-emotional health to staff
- Building teams of counselors, educational therapists and school nurses to support staff and assist with problem-solving
- Providing support as needed through behavior intervention support teams
- Communicate and educate employees on leave and accommodation processes available through Human Resources
- Have frequent check-ins, observations and feedback sessions with staff members
- Enforcing health and safety protocols that aim to keep our school community, including our staff members, as safe as possible.

LSR7’s strong and resilient staff members have supported both the academic and social-emotional needs of our students throughout the pandemic, and we are committed to building a supportive environment for our staff members as well.

LSR7 will support students by:

- Identifying students and families who need additional support and establishing frequent contact
- Utilizing check-ins and morning meetings to ensure connection with students
- Incorporating community circles and other welcoming activities into return to school plans
- Equipping teachers with strategies to reconnect students to learning
- Modeling a culture of grace, understanding and flexibility as we support the varying needs of our students
- Initiating targeted support to meet the needs of identified students.

LSR7 is committed to supporting the social-emotional health of our students, in addition to academic needs. As COVID-19 continues to impact our lives at home and at school, LSR7 will utilize intentional strategies to promote student well-being, strengthen relationships between students and staff and build safe and supportive learning environments, regardless of whether we are learning at school or virtually.
Health & Safety

Frequently Asked Questions

**How will LSR7 communicate positive COVID-19 cases in our school community?**

COVID-19 exposure is private medical information. School districts are not medical experts, and we work with the Jackson County Health Department for each and every case that intersects with our school district. The Jackson County Health Department directs individuals or groups to self-quarantine as a result of contact tracing they conduct per health investigations related to COVID-19 positive individuals. In cases involving our schools, the district assists the Jackson County Health Department as the Health Department identifies individuals who might be at risk of exposure. For each and every case, we communicate as instructed by the Jackson County Health Department. If someone is identified as a close contact to a positive COVID case, they are contacted directly by the Health Department and/or the district. It's important to remember that the protocols the Health Department instructs us to implement may or may not include a mass notification to a classroom, school building or the district.

**Will siblings be asked to quarantine as well if a child is positive?**

The Health Department will determine this on a case-by-case basis. Siblings would likely be required to quarantine if their sibling tested positive and they are unable to remain isolated from the infected individual.

**What is a close contact?**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines a 'close contact' as any individual who is within six feet of an infected person with COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more, starting from two days before symptoms begin to show or a positive test is taken until the time the infected person is isolated.

**How will arrival and dismissal processes be altered at individual schools?**

To assist with social distancing, arrival and dismissal times may be staggered. However, building principals and teams will develop processes that work best for their site. More information will be shared prior to the first day of school.

**Will the district temperature screen every student and staff member each day?**

No. Public health experts have shared with us that routine temperature screenings, particularly in our high schools, can promote congestion and bottle-necking in buildings that pose risk to our school family. Children under the age of 18 are also more likely to be asymptomatic. The district will use thermometers as a tool to swiftly identify students who are displaying other potential signs of COVID-19, and nurses will screen both students and staff prior to entering health rooms.

**Will LSR7 be providing masks for students and staff?**

The district will provide all students and staff two cloth masks each. We also encourage families to provide masks that properly fit their child. The district will provide guidance for parents and guardians on the effective care and laundering of cloth face coverings.

To review more FAQs, visit [lsr7.org/reopening](http://lsr7.org/reopening).
## Programs & Support

### Special Education

Whether you are learning in-person, virtually or through the R-7 Online Academy, special education teachers and teams will continue to provide specialized instruction and support in accordance with a student’s individualized education program (IEP). IEP teams will determine the appropriate supports needed and have protocols in place to support delivery of services in virtual ways. In a hybrid model situation, some special programs may consist of a four-day a week instructional model to best serve students.

**True Hybrid**

Students on IEPs attend per the district’s arranged schedule and receive services in person and/or virtually. Transportation is provided by district or parent/guardian, per the IEP.

**Modified Hybrid per IEP Team Decision**

Students served in district special programs such as CLASS, Life Skills, Medically Fragile, Miller Park Center, or Social Emotional Behavioral Programs who are on IEPs may attend additional days versus the district’s arranged schedule. Transportation will be provided per the IEP, if needed.

### Before and After School Services

Programming for children will be established based on the district’s chosen format and will be offered to the greatest extent possible. Regular communication to families will be provided through EZ Child Track in the form of email and text as well as posts on our website and Facebook. BASS will follow restricted guidance on group sizes and utilize a waitlist at a site that reaches a maximum number of students.

- Maximum of 60 students at each elementary site while maintaining stable groups of 20 or less
- Maximum enrollment of 24 preschoolers age 3-5 while maintaining stable groups of 12 or less
- Maximum enrollment of 18 middle school/high school students
- Large group activities, events and field trips will be eliminated
- Individual activity tubs with supplies will be provided to each child and curriculum activities will be facilitated with social distancing in mind

### Summit Technology Academy

STA programs will mirror LSR7 high schools health and safety protocols. However, Summit Technology Academy courses will not be offered online through R-7 Online Academy. Because of this, LSR7 students will be able to enroll in the all-online option for their regular high school and attend classes in-person at Summit Technology Academy as well as Herndon Career Center and Cass Career Center. If and when PK-3 returns to in-person learning, STA students will participate in a hybrid model, even if our secondary students are still in virtual.

For more information, click here.

### Pre-K

The team at Great Beginnings Early Education Center has developed in-person and virtual plans for our early learners in the Head Start, Early Childhood Special Education, Title I Preschool programs. They have also developed virtual plans for Early Head Start and Parents as Teachers programs. Pre-K parents should expect direct communication providing program-specific information for their child.
**Transportation**

LSR7 has one of the largest bus rider populations in Missouri. It is not currently feasible to meet the needs of all of our current bus riders and keep students six feet apart. The Transportation Department is strongly encouraging families who have the ability to find additional means of getting to school to consider alternative options so that we can create the safest environment possible for our students most in need of bus transport.

The LSR7 Transportation Department will make our buses as safe as possible by:

- Eliminating the use of first rows to promote distance between riders and drivers
- Requiring masks to be worn on the bus
- Assigning seats for all grade levels and using a seating chart for contact tracing
- Requiring siblings and family members to sit together
- Limiting seats to two students (high school), two to three (middle school) and three (elementary)
- Cleaning touch points such as handrails and seat tops between routes
- Eliminating friend ride-alongs and limiting one-day ride passes
- Educating students about the importance of social distancing at bus stops
- Requiring bus drivers to self-screen prior to daily routes
- Providing masks, sanitizing supplies and other PPE to bus drivers
- Encouraging parents to select one bus stop assignment for their children

*Note: While the district will continue to serve as many students as it can, county restrictions may prompt more severe measures such as expanding parent transport/walk zones or adjusting school bell times.*

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**Technology**

The LSR7 Technology Department will continue to support the needs of our students and staff by:

- Continuing to provide Chromebooks for all K-12 students
- Repairing and distributing technology per regular procedures
- Maintaining the district Help Desk started in March to address technology trouble-shooting needs
- Continuing to share and educate families about free Wi-Fi access opportunities and low-cost Internet options from local providers
- Continuing to partner with local apartment complexes to provide Wi-Fi units
- Continuing to distribute hot spots to families in need
- Purchasing additional hot spots to support the needs of students and staff

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**English Language Learners**

- English Language Learner instruction will remain available for in-person and online students
- Under a hybrid model, certain EL students (identified via Access scores and teacher feedback) would attend four days a week (two days with primary instruction and two days with EL support of primary instruction)
- Under virtual instruction (for in-person students) Wednesdays will be in-person for certain EL students (identified via Access scores and teacher feedback)
- An EL certified teacher will be assigned to the R-7 Online Academy in order to support EL students in online course work
To promote safe food distribution practices, all Nutrition Services staff will wear masks and gloves, students will wear masks in meal lines and cafeterias will be set up to promote social distancing and one-way traffic as much as possible. Lunch number keypads will be eliminated and student meals will be checked off a roster.

The district will also implement the following protocols.

**Elementary cafeterias:**
- To begin the school year, the number of students allowed to eat in the cafeteria will be limited to 50% capacity. Classrooms and other alternate locations will be used for lunch shifts.
- Breakfast will be a Grab and Go selection taken to the classroom, per normal practice
- Students will eat in the cafeteria with a seat spaced between each student and grouped by class
- Markings on the floor will indicate one-way movement through the cafeteria
- Students will be released by class to come to the cafeteria with the guidance of their teachers
- All trays, portion cups, and utensils will be disposable
- Classroom rosters will be used by cafeteria staff in place of keypads; we may require teacher’s help to check off names to eliminate using keypads and to keep the lines moving
- Seating charts for students will be kept by the teachers
- Monitors will sanitize tables in between classes; students will not be allowed to clean the tables

**Procedures for lunch in the classroom:**
- Students will come to the cafeteria to get their meals to take back to the classroom or nutrition staff will portion meals into containers and place on carts to be transported to each classroom by school nutrition staff and/or designated students
- If meals are delivered to the classroom, teachers will take a meal count daily at the beginning of each day and send email to the cafeteria
- During meal service in the classroom the teacher will mark off a roster those students receiving a meal; students will eat their meal at their desk
- Students clear trash and are responsible for wiping down their desk
- Trash can be placed in the hallway to be collected by custodial staff
- Custodial staff collect the trash from the hallways after meal service
- Carts will be retrieved by nutrition staff or designated student(s) return them to the cafeteria

**Virtual Learning:**
- Meals will be available for purchase/pickup curbside
- Meals would be offered curbside at designated locations daily with rosters listing each student’s eligibility

**Procedures for Secondary Cafeterias:**
- Guidance hasn’t been given from USDA and the Health Department; options may include all prepackaged items and hot meals
- Hot meal service with staff serving in “to go” containers
- Students will be required to use their ID badges to scan their lunch numbers

**Hybrid Learning:**
- Meals will be available in the cafeteria on the days students attend
- If waivers are extended to allow meals to be given for multiple days, students have the option to pick up grab and go meals to take home for the days they are not in attendance
Frequently Asked Questions

**Will special education services be available to R-7 Online Academy students?**
Yes. Special education services, accommodations and modifications will be provided, as appropriate, for students per their IEP and/or 504 plans. Special program courses for students on IEPs will also be available, as appropriate.

**Where should students or staff go for Chromebook/technology support?**
Find technology support on the district’s [Connect2Learn page](#). File a technology Help Desk ticket using the ‘Contact Us’ button.

**Where can families receive help accessing PowerSchool?**
If families need help accessing PowerSchool they should consult this [helpsheet](#), and/or contact [their child's front office](#) for assistance updating or accessing their PowerSchool information.

**How will the district support gifted and talented students?**
Gifted instruction will remain available for in-person students. The district is developing plans to deliver these services to R-7 Online Academy students.

**How will the district address band or music classes?**
The district is committed to support choir, band and orchestra classes. In an effort to provide these classes to our students in the safest way possible, we have made the following changes to our programs:

- Fifth grade band and strings will be on hold for the first semester of the 2020-21 school year. This hold could possibly be extended for the school year.
- Sixth grade band and strings will be provided in a virtual environment for both in-person and online-only students through a virtual Schoology course held after the regular school hours.
- To provide these classes safely at the middle and high school level, classes must be split to promote smaller class sizes that can socially distance. Elementary band and strings teachers will be reallocated to support middle and high school programs for the purpose of creating additional choir, band and orchestra sections.
- Our R-7 Online Academy will include the following courses that students will be able to access virtually: High School Choir, High School Band, High School Orchestra, Middle School Band, Middle School Orchestra and Middle School Choir.

**What community resources are available to help LSR7 families?**
Families can find links to community resources for food, clothing, employment, child care and more at [this link](#).
References & Resources

References

Jackson County Health Department
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services
American Academy of Pediatrics
Missouri School Boards’ Association

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Coronavirus Symptoms
Travel
Social Distancing
How to Wear Face Coverings and Masks
How to Wash Your Hands

Technology & Instruction

Schoology
PowerSchool
PowerSchool Support
R-7 Online Academy
Chromebook/Technology Support

Social & Emotional Support/Community

LSR7 Family Resources
LSR7 Community Resource Guide
Lee’s Summit CARES Parent Resources