

Return to Learn for Lake County Students

A message from the superintendents of Lake County schools

July 13, 2020

Dear Lake County Families,

Recently, Governor Holcomb has approved the re-opening of Indiana Schools for the fall. All Lake County Schools are committed to providing a safe, secure and healthy learning environment for all students and staff. We believe that students learn best when they are in the school setting. Further, the socialization aspects of school are critical in a student's life. Therefore, all Lake County Schools will be starting the school year in the traditional manner.

All Lake County Schools have worked collectively to ensure a safe return for students and staff. Efforts have been made to align with CDC guidelines, the Indiana Department of Health, the Indiana Department of Education and our local Lake County Health Department. It is important to note that it is not possible to meet physical distancing guidelines at all times. Therefore, all Lake County Schools require that staff and students have masks with them at all times, be prepared to wear them at any time they are in close proximity (examples include hallways and buses) or interacting face to face, and when social distancing is not possible. Students can remove mask during class time when all students are seated at desks facing the same direction and spread out as much as possible.

Please note that the well-being of our students and staff is of the highest priority. We want our students in school and believe this plan makes that a reality.

All Lake County Schools will be starting on their scheduled date. Some of the measures followed by all schools are provided below. More specific guidelines will be made available by each school district.

- All Lake County schools require that staff and students have masks with them at all times, be prepared to wear them at any time they are in close proximity (examples include hallways and buses) or interacting face to face, when social distancing is not possible, or in large congregating groups.
- Observing social distancing to the greatest extent possible.
- Maximize instructional space and scheduling flexibility
- Employ enhanced cleaning procedures and with greater frequency throughout the day.
- Frequent hand washing throughout the day.
- Prohibit the use of water fountains.
- Adjust lunch schedules and spaces to maximize social distancing.
- Identify and have separate clinic spaces in which students who are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms are screened.
- Restrict visitors to school buildings.
- Discontinue perfect attendance awards.
- Require students and staff to be fever free for 72 hours without the use of medication before returning to school.

All Lake County School will receive direction from the Lake County Health Department should there be confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Please note that the above information is subject to change based on available health data and guidance from state and local officials.

We thank you, in advance, for your cooperation and commitment to ensuring the safety of our students and staff. We look forward to welcoming our families back to school.

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Crown Point
Community Schools

Dr. Paige McNulty,
Gary Community
School Corporation

Mrs. Michele Riise,
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Mrs. Mary Tracy-MacAulay,
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