

## Reopening of Lincoln School, Garwood 2020-2021 School Year

Lincoln School's administration, teachers, staff, local health professionals, and restart committee have worked within the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) and CDC guidelines to put together what we believe is the best option for educating the students of Garwood. The plan consists of in person learning five days per week, four-hour AM days with all staff and students wearing face coverings. Please note that this re-entry plan will need to be fluid due to the fact that NJDOE guidelines may change. Parents/guardians MUST let the District know, in writing, by 8/27/20 if their student(s) will be coming to school or choosing virtual instruction. Policy 6173.1

*Restart Committee met several times over the summer to develop the plan. The Pandemic Team (CRT Team) also met and will continue to meet during the school year to provide continuous communication to parents.*

School calendar- For staff, our academic year will begin on Tuesday, September 8. Our students will begin in-person instruction on Thursday, September 10. Students will report to school between 8:15 am-8:25 am. Dismissal will be between 12:15 pm- 12:25pm all grades will enter/exit from a different school door.

- Prior to our students returning to school, professional training for our staff will be offered in the following areas:
  - *Hybrid/Virtual Learning*
  - *Social Emotional Learning*
  - *Effective use of paraprofessionals in hybrid/virtual learning*
  
- In-person schooling for kindergarten will be two and one-half hours.
- In-person schooling for 1st-8th grade students choosing to return to school will be four hour sessions in the morning with scheduled Google Meet(s) in the afternoon. Students on remote learning will have real-time access to their classrooms through live streaming during actual instructional time and the use of scheduled Google Meet(s) in the afternoon.
  - Four-hour AM days for all 1st-8th grade students every day with continued virtual components in the PM.
  - Only direct instruction by the teacher will be live-streamed, when teachers are working with other students during live instruction, the cameras and microphones may be turned off.
  - Remote learning students are expected to have cameras on and be present and available for all virtual instruction with the teacher during the in-person school hours.
  
- Remote Google Classrooms that can be accessed in the afternoon will be Art, Music, World Languages, PE, and Social Emotional Learning.

- All students will be provided with Chromebooks which they will bring to and from school everyday. (students in grades K-2 will only have to bring their chromebooks to school on scheduled days) Students on remote learning will also be provided with Chromebooks.
- ALL students will be required to use school provided devices to ensure quality of instruction.
- If the district needs to revert back to entirely remote learning the above plan will be used for all students.
- All classrooms will have desks spaced 6ft apart
- Physical Education and twenty minutes of recess will be provided during the day including time outside for students when possible.
- Snack time: will be a working snack time at student desks or outside when possible. Schools will provide a list of appropriate snacks.

### **Special Education:**

- To begin the school year, students with IEPs will follow the same school day hours as all other students in their homerooms. Therapies will be provided in-person during the school day or virtually for students that choose the remote option.
- IEP meetings will be held virtually.
- Plexiglas shields will be utilized for small group instruction, one-to-one instruction, speech, basic skills, reading, CST testing, etc. as needed.

### **Digital Divide:**

All students will be provided with a chromebook. Families have been surveyed regarding their technological needs. Students who do not have internet access will be given a hotspot as per policy 6173.1 Families will continue to be surveyed regarding technology needs throughout the school year.

### **General Health and Safety**

Lincoln School will follow our school doctor's recommendations, Westfield Department of Health, CDC, and NJDOE re-entry guidelines. Social distancing, mask wearing, plexiglass dividers where indicated, daily assessments of student and staff members' health, hand-washing, hand sanitizing, and daily deep cleaning protocols will be implemented.

- The Nurse's office will be used as confinement areas for up to 3 students.
- PK-8 children will be required to wear face coverings - the schools will provide time for mask breaks throughout the day. Parents are asked to provide face coverings - the district has a supply for students who do not have masks.

### **Facilities Cleaning Practices**

- A procedures manual has been developed for COVID specific cleaning
- All rooms will be sanitized daily
- Restrooms will be sanitized 2x during the four hour day.
- Frequently touched surfaces (ie. entrance doors and handrails) will be cleaned after students enter the building
- Hand sanitizing stations will be placed at every entrance
- Clorox wipes will be available in each classroom for as needed cleaning of classroom surfaces.

### **School Meals**

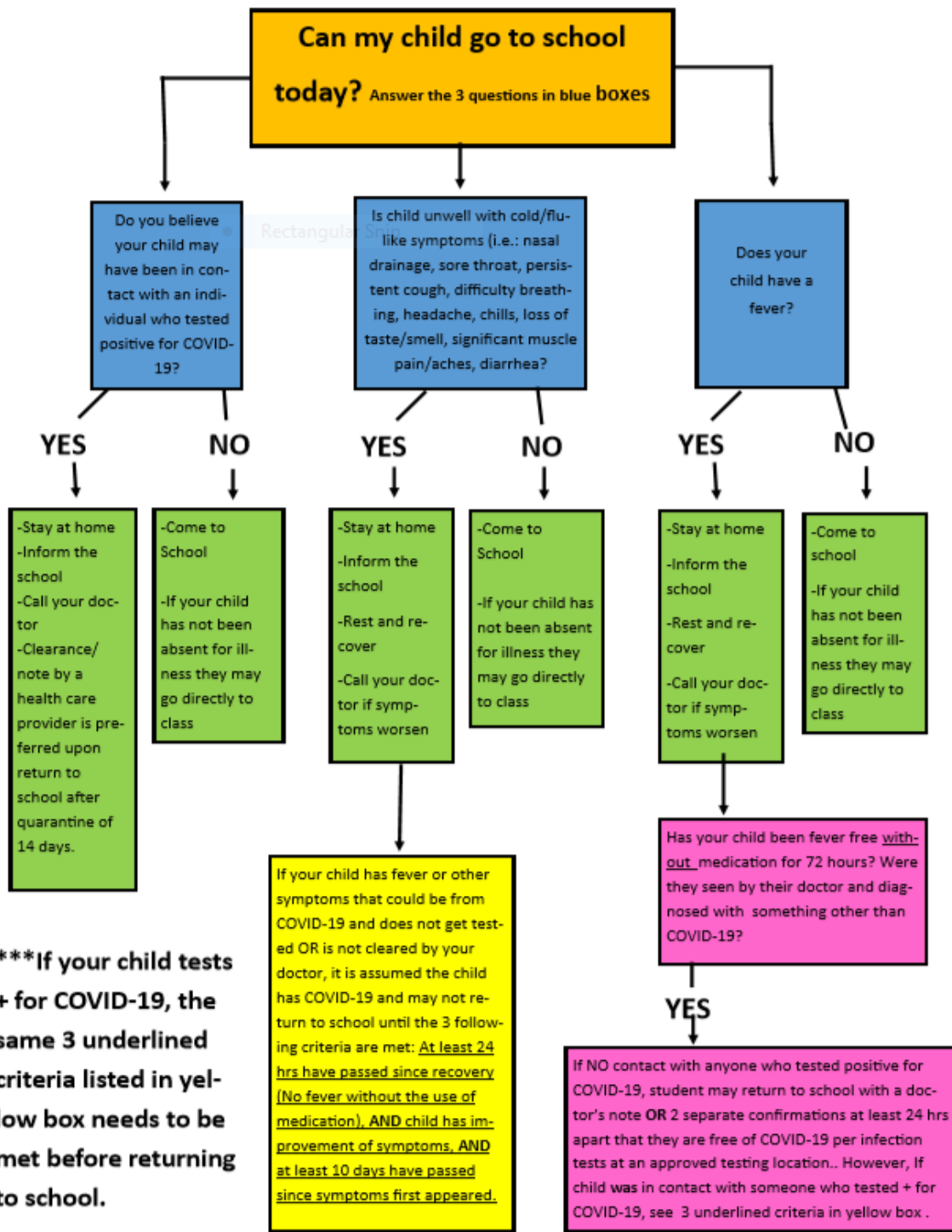
- Breakfast and lunch will be provided daily as a grab and go option
- All meals must be pre-ordered by parents and paid on-line
- The cafeteria will not be used for eating meals
- All personnel including food service will follow CDC and NJDOE mandates

### **Transportation**

- Garwood has one bus and it will be cleaned and disinfected after each use and as otherwise indicated.
- Masks must be worn on the bus at all times

### **Additional Information**

- The following has been cancelled for the 20-21 school year:
  - Field trips
  - Sports
  - After school clubs
- Students will report directly to their homeroom/classrooms upon their arrival, temperature check and entry into the school building
- We ask that all staff and students bring a water bottle to school each day if needed.
- There will be no field trips or middle school sports planned for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Visitors and Parent Meetings:
  - Parent meetings will be held virtually.
  - Back to School Night will be held virtually.
  - No visitors will be allowed past the inner vestibule.
- All individuals entering NJ from states with a significant spread of COVID should quarantine for 14 days after leaving that state. Please keep this mind when making travel plans during the school year. Please check the following link for states currently on the list. <https://covid19.nj.gov/>



**\*\*\*If your child tests + for COVID-19, the same 3 underlined criteria listed in yellow box needs to be met before returning to school.**

Per CDC and ODH guidelines as of 7/30/2020

## COVID-19 SCHOOL RESPONSE (per school doctor, CDC)

SITUATION:	CONTAINMENT RESPONSE	NOTE
<b>Confirmed Case (Student or Faculty)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration will address the situation with the local Public Health Dept and School Physician.</li> <li>• May recommend school-wide virtual instruction for a day to allow health department to complete investigation and contact tracing.</li> <li>• All students and faculty who meet the CDC close contact criteria with a confirmed case are quarantined for 14 days or as per current CDC Guidelines.</li> <li>• Confirmed case will isolate as per current CDC guidelines. Need to complete CDC isolation protocol prior to reentry</li> </ul>	There are many factors that need to be assessed to determine the appropriate response. Who is the positive case and the number of possible contacts. Timing of symptoms and timing of notification. These are just a few of the considerations
<b>Probable Case (Student or Faculty)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration will address the situation with the local Public Health Dept and School Physician.</li> <li>• May recommend school-wide virtual instruction for a day to allow health department to complete contact tracing investigation.</li> <li>• All students and faculty who meet the CDC close contact criteria with a probable case managed as per current CDC guidelines.</li> <li>• Probable Case is recommended for testing.</li> <li>• Probable Case will isolate as per current CDC Guidelines.</li> </ul>	Probable cases may have been exposed in either a school or non-school setting. This has a significant impact on our response. Timing of the contact is also a key factor. For example, exposed on Sat outside of school and stayed home on Monday.
<b>Reported Symptoms of COVID-19 with no known exposure to a confirmed case (Student or Faculty)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management is based on current CDC Guidelines</li> <li>• Student and faculty member with symptoms of COVID-19 stays home for at least 10 days since their symptoms first appeared and they have no fever for 24 hours (one full day without the use of medicine to reduce fever) and symptoms improved. May return earlier after negative COVID-19 test or alternative diagnosis is confirmed.</li> <li>• Will need medical note if attempting to return to school prior to 10 days</li> </ul>	If returning to school before 10 days assumes that they have been medically evaluated, tested and thought to be low probability of COVID. Otherwise out for 10 days or as per current CDC Guidelines.
<b>Close Contact (Student or Faculty)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student or faculty that are close contacts of confirmed cases outside the school will quarantine for 14 days from the last date of exposure or as per current CDC Guidelines.</li> </ul>	

### Definitions:

- **Confirmed Case:** A person with a lab test confirming COVID-19
- **Probable Case:** A person with clinical symptoms of COVID-19 with known exposure to a confirmed case
- **Close Contact:** A person who was within 6 feet of a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case for at least 15 minutes