

Liberty-Benton Local Schools

Continuity of Services Plan 2021-2022

Plan Description

Liberty-Benton Local School will provide in-person learning opportunities with a focus on closing achievement gaps and addressing the social, emotional and mental health needs of students. Additionally, we will continue to work with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and Hancock County Public Health (HCPH) to ensure we are adjusting safety procedures as necessary.

Liberty-Benton COVID-19 Guidance

While we plan to remain flexible with our decisions, our hope is to return to school in 2021-2022 as normally as possible. We may determine that grade levels have different guidance, but we will continue to monitor data both inside our school building as well as the community. The Liberty-Benton Administrative Team will meet quarterly to review data, consider community input, and to review students' academic, emotional, mental health, social, and intervention needs and will revise our plan if needed.

Masks

- All students and employees **may choose** to wear a mask at school, **but they are not required to do so.**
- As per federal mandates, **masks are required** while riding official school transportation (bus or van). This includes all extracurricular activities.

Social Distancing

- The 3 and 6 foot rule is no longer required, but maintaining distance when possible will result in lower spread for all communicable diseases, not just COVID-19.

Quarantine/Close Contact

- Guidance for quarantine/close contact for schools is posted on the Ohio Department of Health website:
 - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/covid-19-fact-sheet-k-12-exposure-and-quarantine.pdf>
- Liberty-Benton Local Schools will work with our local health department to follow the guidelines on a case by case situation.

Materials/Cleaning

- Classroom materials (ex: manipulatives) can be shared.
- Handwashing and sanitizing will continue as these are healthy hygiene practices.
- Employees will continue normal cleaning and sanitizing routines of common surfaces.
- Materials removed from the classrooms due to the pandemic may be returned.
- Playground equipment and recess will return to regular usage and activities.
- Liberty-Benton will continue to clean and maintain healthy facilities, including improved ventilation.

Health/Temperature Screening

- COVID-19 positive individuals should stay home or be sent home immediately.
- Any student or staff member with a fever of 100° F or above should stay home.
- Students or employees will be sent home if exhibiting symptoms for COVID-19.

Vaccinations

- Liberty-Benton will collaborate with Hancock County Public Health to provide vaccination opportunities for employees and students as they are available.

Food and Beverages/Lunch

- We will follow regular food and beverage guidance as outlined in school handbooks.
- All students will be eating in the cafeteria. (No room for guests.)
- Social distancing is not possible with all students in the cafeteria, but students will be distanced as much as possible. Seating charts will record students in close proximity.

Guests/Visitors

- Guests and visitors will be welcomed in school district buildings.
- Guests and visitors should self-screen for symptoms and stay home if symptomatic for any illness.
- Guests and visitors will follow regular check-in procedures and rules outlined in school handbooks.

Transportation

- As per federal mandates, **masks are required** while riding on official school transportation (bus or van). This includes extracurricular activities and field trips.
- Students will not be socially distanced on the busses.
- Parents/guardians have the option of providing their own transportation.

Capacity

- Large gatherings indoors do not have a capacity limit.
- Outdoor gatherings do not have a capacity limit.