



Due to an [update](#) from the Harvard Global Health Institute on their model for operating schools during the pandemic, in which they examined the evidence on how COVID-19 is spread in children and how it is spread at schools, the School District of La Crosse will begin transitioning to face-to-face instruction. Their multidisciplinary team found that schools with strong infection control practices successfully held in-person school, with very little transmission at school, even with high rates of community spread. As a result, their new recommendations indicate that with strong infection control practices it is safe to hold in-person school for students. The most important elements of infection control they cite are:

- universal masking
- hand and bathroom hygiene
- 4-6 air exchanges per hour
- 3-6 foot social distancing
- robust quarantine policies and contact tracing practices
- and, where feasible, surveillance/screening testing

As a result, we feel confident that our procedures are strong and are looking forward to seeing all our children and families in person again. **Northside students in kindergarten, first and second grades and Coulee Montessori Children's House kindergarteners and E1 will return on Wednesday, January 20th. Northside students in preschool, third, fourth and fifth grades and Coulee Montessori Children's House preschoolers and E2 will return on Monday, January 25th.** Students will be attending school every day. We know you have questions about safety and how the rest of the school year will look. Please know that we are committed to reducing opportunities for the COVID-19 virus to spread while still maintaining the close family/school partnership and excellent instruction that have always occurred at Northside and Coulee Montessori. We will continue to work together with you as our most valuable partner to make this a safe school year for your children.

Northside and Coulee Montessori will have **synchronous instruction Monday and Tuesday, January 11th and 12th and asynchronous instruction on Wednesday, January 13th.** In preparation for school starting on Wednesday, January 20th, we will **not have school Thursday, January 14th and Friday January 15th.**

There is no school on Monday, January 18th in honor of Martin Luther King Day, and Tuesday, January 19th for staff development.

This information does not include CRVA students:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10	11 All students have virtual synchronous instruction	12 All students have virtual synchronous instruction	13 All students have asynchronous	14 No school	15 No school	16
17	18 MLK--no school	19--No school (teacher staff development)	20 NS K-2 CM: E1 and CH kindergarten start in the building. NS grades 3-5 and E2 continue virtual learning	21 NS K-2 and CM E1 and CH kindergarten in the building NS grades 3-5 and E2 continue virtual learning	22 NS K-2 and CM E1 and CH kindergarten in the building NS grades 3-5 and E2 continue virtual learning	23
24	25 All NS and CM students have school in the building!	26	27	28	29	30

Please note: Students enrolled in the CRVA will have class on Thursday, January 14th and Friday January 15th.

Now that conditions have been determined to be safe for Northside and Coulee Montessori to take place in person, here are our current plans with respect to supporting the safety of our children and staff.

SCHOOL EXCLUSION

As we come back to face-to-face instruction it is important for families to know when to keep their child home from school. The following is important information about how to decide if your child should stay home:



School District of La Crosse

COVID-19 ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES



I should not attend in-person school or activities if:

I or my siblings have 1 of the following symptoms above baseline in the last 24 hours:

- COUGH
- SHORTNESS OF BREATH / DIFFICULTY BREATHING
- LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL
- *FEVER OF 100°F
- *VOMITING
- *DIARRHEA

OR

I or my siblings have 2 of the following symptoms above baseline in the last 24 hours:

- HEADACHE
- BODY ACHES
- FATIGUE
- CHILLS
- CONGESTION OR RUNNY NOSE
- SORE THROAT
- NAUSEA

OR

I am a close contact of a confirmed COVID case meaning:

- HAD DIRECT PHYSICAL CONTACT WITH THE PERSON **OR** WERE WITHIN 6 FEET OF THE PERSON FOR 15 CUMULATIVE MINUTES IN A DAY **OR** HAD CONTACT WITH THE PERSON'S RESPIRATORY SECRETIONS (COUGHED/ SNEEZED ON OR SHARED DRINKING GLASS/FOOD)

***NOTE:** IF THE **ONLY** SYMPTOM IS VOMITING **OR** DIARRHEA **OR** FEVER—ALONE—STUDENT SHOULD BE EXCLUDED UNTIL FEVER FREE, DIARRHEA FREE OR NO VOMITING FOR 24 CONSECUTIVE HOURS. HOWEVER, IT DOES NOT NECESSARILY INDICATE THE NEED TO TEST FOR COVID OR FOR COVID ISOLATION. CONTACT YOUR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER FOR GUIDANCE.

When can we return to school and work?

	Sick person	Household members
Sick individual is diagnosed with a different illness	Follow guidance from medical provider	All well individuals may return to school and work
Sick individual tests negative for COVID-19	24 hours symptom free without using medicine	All well individuals may return to school and work
Sick individual tests positive for COVID-19	10 days after symptoms started AND fever free for 24 hours with other symptoms improving	14 days after last contact with sick person AND do not have any COVID symptoms
Sick individual does not test for COVID-19 and does not have a medical diagnosis of another illness	10 days after symptoms started AND fever free for 24 hours with other symptoms improving	14 days after last contact with sick person AND do not have any COVID symptoms

Note: There are other times a child will be required to stay home from school because of potential exposure to COVID. Public Health will provide directions if this happens.

In the event that your child has to stay home, please keep in mind the following attendance considerations:

Out due to close contact with a positive COVID case	Out due to symptoms of COVID-19	Out due to household member's symptoms or test	Out due to a Positive COVID-19 test
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are expected to participate in all of your learning activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you are able, you are expected to participate in all of your learning activities If you are experiencing symptoms that don't allow you to complete work, please contact the main office and your teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are expected to participate in all of your learning activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You are expected to participate in all of your learning activities If you are experiencing symptoms that don't allow you to complete work, please contact main office and your teacher

SYMPTOM SCREENING

In order to ensure that anyone entering our school buildings is not displaying symptoms of COVID-19 and has not been in contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19, we will be requiring that all students complete a Symptom Screening Survey each day prior to entry to the building. Parents/guardians are asked to complete this before their child leaves for school and to keep their child home if they are demonstrating any symptoms of COVID-19 or have been in close contact with a positive case. Students who have not completed the screener prior to arrival will be screened upon arrival by school staff. If a student arrives at school and does not pass this screener, parents will be contacted to pick up their child as quickly as possible and contact their medical provider.

To access the survey you can do one of the following options. You may need to enter your child's lunch/key pad code. You can get that number through Skyward Family Access (Food Service) or by contacting the building Administrative Assistant or your child's teacher.

- 1. Use the link you receive in the daily symptom screener email that is sent to the email address you have listed in Skyward. This email will be sent each morning at 5am and 7am (you only need to complete the survey once).**
- 2. Scan the QR code below (using the camera app (Apple) or QR Reader App) to complete the Symptom Screener before entering the building.**



- 3. Or copy and paste the URL below into your internet browser:**

https://lacrosse.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cAspkFgjoH60IE1

Remember, please keep your child home if they or anyone in the household::

- has symptoms of COVID-19 or
- has been tested for COVID-19 (due to symptoms or potential close contact with a positive case) and are awaiting results or
- If your child has been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

We ask that you make completion of this survey prior to arrival at school a priority. The more students that are able to complete the survey before arrival, the safer our school buildings will be and the less time will be needed to screen students upon arrival to school. We thank you for your assistance in this important safety procedure.

CLOTH FACE COVERINGS

All students and staff will be expected to wear a cloth face covering at all times while on school property. This includes on the bus if your child is receiving transportation. Exceptions to this will be students who cannot wear a mask due to a medical (with documentation from your child's doctor) or disability related reason. If this applies to your child, please connect with your child's special education case manager or the school nurse. Staff will work with students who are not used to wearing a face mask to help them get accustomed to wearing one and will provide reminders and support throughout the day. Cloth masks will be provided for students that do not supply their own. Cloth masks from home should be washed daily. Masks that have a vent will not be allowed.

Please be aware that we cannot guarantee that every student will keep a mask on at all times. Staff will provide assistance putting on masks if needed and will provide reminders to every student.

We look forward to seeing your child soon.

SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

- Fever or Chills
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or Body Aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore Throat
- Congestion or Runny Nose
- Nausea or Vomiting
- Diarrhea

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

As in past years, we are committed to addressing the social and emotional needs of our children at all times but particularly during this COVID-19 period in our community. We will

- Ensure that classroom and school spaces are safe, positive, welcoming and supportive learning environments.
- Have resources available that can help caregivers support children' mental wellness.
- Provide caregivers a confidential way to let schools know about concerns they have about their child returning to learning.
- Monitor and recognize early warning signs in children or identify children who may need support.
- Ensure school counselors and social workers will be available to respond to emerging child needs at school.
- Ensure school counselors and social workers will be available to support the mental health of children learning online.
- Ensure that children can access their mental health therapy services via teletherapy.

CAREGIVER/ STAFF COMMUNICATION

- Caregivers are allowed in the school office only. Caregivers are not allowed to be in any other area of the building.
- The number of caregivers in the office will be limited to **three** at one time and caregivers will be asked to follow social distancing practices.
- If a caregiver needs to pick up their child early, caregivers will be asked to wait outside until their child is in the office.
 - Office staff will call the parent when their child is ready.
- When a child is ill, caregivers must pick up the child within 30-minutes.
 - Sick children will be brought outside by staff to waiting caregivers.
- There will be no large-group evening gatherings such as concerts, family nights, etc. for at least the first semester.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE CLASSROOM

- Instructional plans for the 20-21 school year have been developed to provide instruction on missed standards from the previous school year embedded within the current school year curriculum.
- Classrooms will be set up and instruction will be designed to maximize the distance between children in accordance with social distancing guidelines.
- Coulee Montessori students will be eating breakfast and lunch in the lunchroom. Northside students will eat breakfast and lunch in their classrooms.
- Proper disinfecting procedures will be used before and after each mealtime.
- Each child will receive a water bottle labeled for their personal use.
- Classroom snacks will be distributed by an adult wearing gloves. Snacks will be placed on a paper towel/napkin or distributed in a prepared snack bag.
 - Desks will be sanitized before and after snack.
 - Caregivers may bring in bulk snacks.
 - There will be NO homemade treats/snacks allowed.
- Children will have their own supplies and will not share a community set.
- All supplies, clothes, outerwear, etc., must be labeled with the child's name.
- There will be markings on the ground that will assist children to know where to stand a safe distance from each other.
- There will be no field trips except walking to a nearby outdoor space. Masks must be worn and social distancing practices will be implemented on walking field trips.
- Assemblies or large group gatherings will be conducted virtually.
- Children will not be allowed to move about the building throughout the day. They will stay in their classrooms in order to minimize contact with children outside their classroom.
- Specialist teachers including art, music, PE, library and guidance will teach in the homeroom classrooms to lessen children travelling in the building.
- We will provide Title, English Language and Special Education instruction in a safe way specific to the needs of the individual children.
- Should La Crosse County require it, individual children (or in some cases, the entire class) could move to a temporary virtual learning environment delivered by your child's teachers using their individual iPad.

GENERAL CLEANING OF BUILDING ENVIRONMENT

- All classrooms will have hand sanitizer available for children as they enter and leave the building/room.
- Hand sanitizer stations will also be set up throughout the building.
- Classrooms will be fully sanitized each evening.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

- Caregivers are not allowed to enter the school with their children.
- Children can be dropped off no earlier than 7:45am. If caregivers and children arrive before 7:45am, please ask your child to wait in your car or away from the door of building (remember to maintain a safe social distance from others)
- Playgrounds will be locked before and after school.
- Children will go straight to their classroom upon arrival and can begin entering the building at 7:45am.
- Caregivers will be reminded to approach the class one at a time using appropriate social distancing to pick up their child(ren).
- Caregivers will be reminded to wear masks when they pick up and drop off their child.
- children will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms as they enter the building and when they enter their classroom. If a child shows signs/symptoms of illness, they will be referred to the health room.
- Caregivers should contact the Boys and Girls Club if their child(ren) will be attending the Erickson Club after school for information on transportation to the club. Please go to the district website for information on bussing to the Erickson Club and to register your students for Boys and Girls club programming.
- Children will enter through the Kane Street, Charles Street, and parking lot doors only. They will enter the building closest to their classrooms/lockers.
 - Grade levels will be assigned a door to enter through.
 - Signage will be put near entrance doors letting caregivers know what doors their children should be entering through (according to grade level).

ARRIVAL INFORMATION

<u>Northside</u>	<u>Grade Level and/or Teacher</u>	<u>Entrance</u>	<u>Door Entrance Letter</u>
	Kindergarten thru 3rd grade and Ms. Straubhaar's 4th grade class	Kane Street Entrance	A
	4th and 5th grade and Mrs. Wiedemann's 2nd grade class	Charles Street Entrance	F
	Preschool	Parking Lot Entrance	G

<u>Coulee Montessori</u>	<u>Grade Level and/or Teacher</u>	<u>Entrance</u>	
	Children's House and E1	Charles Street Entrance	F
	E2	Charles Street Entrance; through the cafeteria to office stairway	F

DISMISSAL INFORMATION

<u>Northside</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Dismissal Time</u>	<u>Door Exit</u>
	Preschool	2:50PM	Parking Lot/G
	Kindergarten	2:45PM	Kane Street/A
	1st	2:45PM	Northeast Door/H
	2nd	2:50PM	Kane Street/A
	3rd	2:55PM	Northeast Door/H
	4th	2:50PM	Cafeteria Doors/D
	5th	2:55PM	Cafeteria Doors/D
<u>Coulee Montessori</u>	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Dismissal Time</u>	<u>Door Exit</u>
	Children's House	2:50PM	Charles Street/F
	E1	2:55PM	Charles Street/F
	E2	2:50PM	Northeast Door/H

Please let me know if you have any questions!

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