



LONG BEACH ISLAND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ethel A. Jacobsen Elementary School
200 South Barnegat Avenue, Surf City, New Jersey 08008 | Grades PreK-2 | P: 609-494-2341
Long Beach Island Grade School
201 20th Street, Ship Bottom, New Jersey 08008 | Grades 3-6 | P: 609-494-8851

Moving Forward with Confidence

8/4/2020

Frequently Asked Questions

If there is a confirmed positive case within the LBICSD, do we have to shut down the school or certain classrooms?

The current widespread illness of CoVID-19 will likely be with us for an extended period of time and we need to expect that cases will be identified within our district. It is the intention of the LBICSD to similarly treat CoVID-19 the same way as we have productively treated other communicable diseases. Our efforts will strive to keep all classrooms, schools and the district open. However, the closing of surrounding schools can have the potential to affect our ability to remain open. In the event of a positive result within the LBICSD, we will work in accordance with parameters set by the Long Beach Island Health Department (LBIHD) for widespread illness. Depending on case investigation by the LBIHD, our containment steps may include: enhanced surveillance, increased sanitation, and all close contacts being sent home and quarantined. It is important to keep in mind that a positive CoVID-19 case will, currently, result in a 2 week quarantine of some students and/or staff who are determined to be close contacts.

If a student or staff member is confirmed positive, what steps will the LBICSD be following?

The Long Beach Island Health Department will be performing all contact tracing and case investigation within our school district and will automatically be notified of confirmed positive cases. Current protocols will have close contacts identified, contacted, and advised based on current public health requirements. Again, currently, if your child is deemed a close contact they will need to stay home and quarantine for 2 weeks following an exposure. The school district will be fully cooperating with the LBIHD's information needs and will endeavor to assist their contact tracing efforts. It will be at this point in the investigation process that close contacts will be notified with confidentiality and privacy held at its highest standard. Any mitigation and disinfecting steps will be performed under the guidance of the LBIHD.



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What happens if a student or teacher begins to report or display Covid-19 like symptoms during school hours?

- The student or staff will leave the classroom immediately.
- The student or staff will put on a mask and report to the School Health Office
- The student/staff will be assessed and will include a temperature check and a review of pre-existing conditions that may explain the CoVid-like symptoms.
- Based on the above assessment the student/staff will be asked to leave the school and follow-up with their medical home. Please review our recently distributed illness guidelines.
- The student or teacher's desk will be immediately sanitized as the situation warrants.
- The student or teacher would need a CoVID-19 test or Medical Clearance to return to school.
- The school will continue to operate until further status information is received from the LBIHD.
- There are multiple reasons that can explain why someone is not feeling well and it would be possible for you to receive no notifications at all.

What if my child has allergies or another chronic medical condition that often causes these same symptoms?

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to complete the LBICSD Medical and Emergency Contact forms prior to the start of school, as we have always done in the past. By accurately listing your child's medical needs and contact info on these forms will allow the Student Health Office to differentiate a chronic medical condition with CoVID-19 and immediately contact you in the event that your child needs to return home. Pick-up must occur *without delay* by the parent/guardian or designated adult.

How will social distancing be managed in groups who do not understand or cannot comply due to safety or personal care concerns?

For the younger students, additional support staff will be used with respect to room-size and the maximum occupancy based on the current 6 foot physical distancing requirement. Students will be assigned to small groups and will remain with the same students daily to decrease the amount of contact with other students. All staff and students are required to wear a mask, unless doing so would inhibit the staff member's or the student's health. A note from your health care provider will be required.



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What is the protocol for a student or staff member to return to school?

The student or staff member should remain home until they meet the requirements to be discharged from either quarantine or isolation dictated by the Long Beach Island Health Department. These parameters evolve along very specific timelines and the most current requirements will be posted on the LBICSD website prior to the opening of school.

What if a household member/contact of a student or staff member tests positive?

If a household contact of a student or staff member tests positive, the LBIHD would decide based on exposure and case investigation as to how long that person should be kept out of school and under quarantine. Household member's health status, as it pertains to CoVID-19, is important and we urge any concerns be reported to the Student Health Office and the LBIHD can advise of any measure that should be taken.