



Please Note: The transition to full-time in-person/remote learning impacts students in grades PreK - 6. Students in grades 7-12 will remain in their current learning model based on guidance from the CDC and NYSDOH. See below for additional details.

When will students return to full-time instruction?

We have targeted Monday, April 26, 2021 for a return to full-time in-person instruction after consideration of multiple factors.

Why can elementary (PreK-6) students return to full-time instruction while LMS and LHS students must maintain the hybrid learning model?

According to the guidance, areas with high levels of community transmission (defined as greater than 100 new cases per 100,000 person), such as Erie County, middle schools and high schools must maintain 6 feet of distance between students unless students are cohorted.

Cohorting

involves creating groups of students that are separated from other groups by at least 6 feet throughout the entire day.

Students at LMS and LHS will have to remain in the current hybrid model until the levels of community transmission decrease below 100 new cases per 100,000 people.

Things are going smoothly in the hybrid learning model and we're close to the end of the school year. Why switch now?

Our students, teachers, families, and administrators have done a fantastic job this entire year. Our goal from the beginning has been to return our students to full-time in-person instruction. Returning on April 26, 2021 provides our students nearly 20 additional days of in-person/fully remote instruction. This is almost as many days of in-person/fully remote instruction as we previously gained by our hybrid model, which was a driving force behind the selection.

What will remote instruction look like (e.g., fully synchronous) on and after April 26, 2021 for elementary students (grades PreK-6)?

In most cases, students will have increased daily interactions with their teachers. If necessary, student schedules will be modified and sent to families as they are created. With some exceptions, these schedules will be commensurate with full time instruction.

PreK families will be contacted by the PreK faculty regarding remote expectations.

Can my child stay in the hybrid model?

No. Students who are currently participating in the hybrid model in grades Pre-K-6, will be transitioned into a full time instructional model.



Students in grades 7-12 will stay in the current hybrid model until further notice.

Are students allowed to switch learning models as a result of this change?

PreK-6 families who selected the hybrid learning model for the second semester will transition to fully in-person instruction. Those PreK-6 families who selected 100% remote learning for their child for the second semester will maintain that learning model.

Will my child's schedule or teacher(s) change due to the transition to full-time in-person/remote instruction?

We are making every effort possible to insure that student schedules remain constant and they stay with their current teacher. However, the possibility does exist that a student's schedule and/or teacher could change.

What does contact tracing look like in classrooms with the three-foot physical distance rule?

The decrease in physical distancing to three feet, coupled with the current contact tracing protocols (i.e., close contact, per ECDOH, is defined as being in contact with someone closer than 6 feet for more than 10 minutes) could result in the quarantining of additional students. We must watch this closely as we move closer to April 26th.

Please review the information from [ECDOH Isolation and Quarantine Documents](https://www2.erie.gov/health/index.php?q=ecdoh-covid-19-isolation-and-quarantine-documents)
<https://www2.erie.gov/health/index.php?q=ecdoh-covid-19-isolation-and-quarantine-documents>

What does quarantine instruction look like for elementary students?

We intend to utilize existing faculty to facilitate the continuity of instruction for quarantined students through both asynchronous and synchronous learning opportunities.

The district has surveyed families and collected input throughout the school year. Why were families not surveyed for this change to full in-person instruction?

We have stated since the beginning of the school year that our mission is to bring students back to our buildings and provide full time in-person instruction. The guidance from the NYSDOH gives us the opportunity to bring our students back.

A survey for PreK-6 parents/guardians is linked below to collect input and feedback to help the district refine our plans to transition to full-time in-person instruction (see below). Please view the video presentation posting on our [COVID-19 & Reopening Webpage](https://www.lancasterschools.org/Domain/1866)
<https://www.lancasterschools.org/Domain/1866>



LCSD Full In-Person Learning 4-16-2021 <https://forms.gle/ZSdWLbgjNfztbj5t7>

Will students still be provided with meals for breakfast and lunch?

Meals will still be provided to students. The format in which students receive meals may change due to the decreased distance between students.

Will there be changes to transportation?

No. Bus routes and assignments were created at the beginning of the year planning for a potential transition to full in-person instruction.

What happens if the number of positive cases increases regionally or in Lancaster?

It should be noted that another surge or spike in COVID-19 cases at the district or regional level could cause another transition to fully remote instruction as we experienced in November 2020. We do not foresee such an event; however, we are planning and preparing for that possibility.

Will students have to be tested for COVID-19 similar to when we were in an orange zone designation?

Schools/districts moving to physical distancing of less than six feet should strongly consider implementing screening testing protocols to ensure monitoring. COVID-19 testing consent provided by parents earlier in the year will remain in effect. Please send an email to LCSDConsent@lancasterschools.org if you would like to change your consent.

Additional details will be forthcoming when the NYSDOH or the ECDOH provides guidance.