



LaMotte Reopening Plan  
2020-2021

*LaMotte School...Where education and the environment meet.*

Dear Families,

The following is a plan for our reentry to face to face learning at LaMotte on September 8, 2020. This document has been prepared with input from parents, staff, board members, the Reopening Task Force, Gallatin County Health Department, Montana State Governor's office, and the CDC. All decisions have been weighed with the safety of YOUR child and our community in mind. Keeping our students safe and in school will be dependent on the fidelity of which all of us follow the protocols we have established. **Let us work together as a team to keep everyone safe and healthy..**

Please remember that our situation is fluid and we may have to change our procedures at any time. It is our goal to keep you informed as soon as possible when change is imminent. As well, it will be very important that you communicate with the school if you have any concerns. We can't address problems if we don't know about them.

Thank you for your grace as we navigate through these trying times. The support I have received this summer has been very helpful, thank you. I'm looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Mrs. Burke

Principal/Superintendent

## Safety - Facility

<b>Classrooms, Library, Lunch Room, Library, etc</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ All surfaces will be sanitized nightly.</li><li>❖ Students will sanitize their assigned device daily.</li></ul>
<b>Restrooms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Sanitized daily</li><li>❖ Cleaned during the day - sinks, faucets, paper towel dispensers and soap dispensers (3 x daily)</li></ul>
<b>Hallways</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Floors, switches, door knobs, cleaned daily, locker fronts weekly. Water fill station cleaned several times a day</li></ul>
<b>Playground</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Equipment sanitized daily, individual toys assigned to each classroom, cleaned daily</li></ul>

## Safety - People

<b>Face Covering</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Students, staff and other visitors entering LaMotte School shall wear a mask. The masks preferred will be washable cotton with more than one layer of material, or disposable masks that are thrown out after each use. Bandanas and neck gaiters do not count as masks as they do not offer the same amount of protection.</li><li>❖ Face Shields may be allowed as an accommodation for students following a consultation with MRs. Burke.</li><li>❖ In the K/1 classroom, students will be allowed to change from a mask to a shield for specific learning activities, or when the child is resistant to the mask.</li><li>❖ Each child will receive one (1) washable cloth mask from the school. Masks will go home nightly. Students are encouraged to have several personal masks to ensure they are wearing a clean one and in case one is misplaced.</li></ul>
<b>Handwashing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Students will wash hands frequently and will</li></ul>

	<p>be taught proper washing technique.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Students will wash or sanitize hands before and after playing on the playground, before and after lunch, and any time they use the restroom.</li> <li>❖ Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and hallways.</li> </ul>
<b>Physical Distancing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Students will be assigned to a specific learning space within the classroom.</li> <li>❖ Distance will be maintained at the greatest degree possible.</li> </ul>
<b>Visitors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ To minimize exposure, we will limit visitors inside the school.</li> <li>❖ If parents need to have contact with their children, we will bring the child to the parent.</li> <li>❖ A box or bin will be placed outside in the morning for you to place things that need to be delivered. Otherwise, your child can give what is necessary to his/her teacher.</li> </ul>

## Daily Procedures

<b>Arrival</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Temperatures will be taken by a staff member while the parent is still at school. For the safety of the staff member and the child, masks should be worn during this time.</li> <li>❖ Students will be assigned a section of the playground in which to play. Each class will have an area. Arrival will be from 7:45 - 8:15.</li> <li>❖ Backpacks will stay outside, on the fence or on each child.</li> <li>❖ Students will enter the school at staggered times and assigned doors after 8:15.</li> </ul>
<b>Recess</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Each class will have a dedicated recess time.</li> <li>❖ When students are active outside, they will not need to wear masks if they are physically distancing.</li> </ul>
<b>Lockers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Students will go to lockers in groups that are spread out from each other and only with their classmates.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Older students will carry all their materials to class. They may leave coats and boots, etc in lockers.</li> </ul>
<b>Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The water fountain will be closed except for the bottle filling portion. All students must bring water daily.</li> </ul>
<b>Halls</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Students will pass in the halls with only their class.</li> </ul>
<b>Lunch</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>Hot lunch will not be provided. We will reconsider this at the end of September.</b></li> <li>❖ All students are to bring lunch from home. We will have a few microwaves on a cart for students to heat food.</li> <li>❖ Emergency lunches are required for each child. (shelf stable to be left in their lockers)</li> </ul>
<b>After School/Sports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ No After School Program. We will reconsider after the winter break. No Bears sports.</li> </ul>
<b>Restrooms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Only 2 students will be allowed in the restrooms at a time. There will be an indicator on the outside of the restrooms so students will know how many are inside.</li> </ul>
<b>Dismissal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Pull in front of the building as usual. Staff will let teachers inside know which cars are in line. Students will be dismissed by their classroom teachers. This may take some extra time, please be patient!</li> <li>❖ <b>At this time, kindergarten and first grade students will be dismissed at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. This allows for time for the youngest students to be present in class for quality learning while also not over taxing them. As they develop more stamina to the new way of doing things, we will add more time to their days.</b></li> <li>❖ First grade will dismiss at the regular time on Monday and Friday. (3:20)</li> </ul>

## Classroom Information

<b>Supplies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Students will use their own supplies.</li><li>❖ Each student will be assigned a computer device for use for the school year.</li></ul>
<b>Movement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Students will stay in their classrooms for all of their classes.</li><li>❖ Students will stay with their class and not mix with other classes.</li><li>❖ Specialists will come to each classroom.</li><li>❖ Students may be allowed in the library with time in between classes for cleaning.</li><li>❖ PE will be outside or in the classroom.</li><li>❖ Classes will take “mask breaks” outside.</li></ul>
<b>Learning groups</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Small groups of students and individuals working with specialists will work in the lunchroom or in the annex or the empty classroom.</li></ul>
<b>Learning Platform</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Students will learn the proper use of Google Classroom and Seesaw at the beginning of the year in case the need for remote learning arises.</li></ul>

## Illness Monitoring and Procedures

<b>What are the symptoms?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ The following checklist includes symptoms to watch for and consult your healthcare provider about:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Fever or chills</li><li>➤ Cough</li><li>➤ Headache</li><li>➤ Muscle aches</li><li>➤ Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea</li><li>➤ New loss of taste or smell</li><li>➤ New runny nose or congestion</li><li>➤ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</li><li>➤ Sore throat</li></ul></li><li>❖ Students with these symptoms at school will</li></ul>
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	<p>be isolated until parents pick them up.</p>
<p><b>Who will be sent home?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Anyone experiencing a fever of greater than 100 degrees.</li> <li>❖ Anyone with a dry persistent cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms on the list above.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What if someone tests positive for COVID-19?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Variables will be considered by GCCHD.</li> <li>❖ Exposure will be determined. Parents will be notified if your child is a close contact (defined as someone that has been closer than 6' for 15 minutes or more)</li> </ul> <p>Gallatin City-County Health Department will follow guidance from the CDC in determining who needs to be placed in isolation or quarantine. Isolation is the term that refers to separating someone who is sick with COVID-19. Quarantine is the term for someone who was exposed to someone who has the disease, and is at higher risk to develop and spread the disease themselves. Anyone with a laboratory confirmed case of the disease will be required to isolate until they are no longer contagious, typically 10 days from the onset of symptoms.</p>
<p><b>What if my child was a close contact?</b></p>	<p>The CDC currently recommends that close contacts of known cases (those who have been within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) be quarantined at home to ensure they do not develop and spread the disease. This quarantine period lasts for 14 days from the person's last known exposure to the person who has the disease.</p> <p>Identifying close contacts will also take into account the ages of students because different ages interact in different ways. In some cases, it may be necessary to quarantine entire classrooms in order to contain the spread of the disease.</p> <p>In some cases, students identified as close contacts may be asked to have a COVID-19 test, especially if they have symptoms. If the test comes back positive for COVID-19, the Health Department will contact the parent/guardian and work with them to help</p>

	connect to health care services or social supports.
<b>Don't kids get sick all the time?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <b>It will be very important that parents do NOT send kids to school that are not feeling well. Please act on the side of precaution. Do not send kids to school if someone at home is sick.</b></li> <li>❖ It will be a difficult year because not everyone with COVID has symptoms and not all symptoms are necessarily COVID.</li> </ul>
<b>Teachers are not doctors.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ We will rely heavily on the Public Health Nurses at Gallatin County-City Health Department. They are dedicated to assisting us as we navigate through this.</li> </ul>

## Social/Emotional Impact

<b>Guidance Counselor</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ We have hired a new guidance counselor, her name is Kasey Anderson. Ms. Anderson has an amazing array of experiences, including beginning her career at LaMotte a few years ago.</li> <li>❖ Ms. Anderson will also work as a paraprofessional so she will be in the building all day, every day. She will be available for individuals that are anxious or nervous about coming to school and for any emotional needs for our students.</li> <li>❖ Contact the school if your child is showing needs socially, emotionally, or behaviorally.</li> </ul>
<b>Students in need</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The staff is prepared to assist with any child exhibiting signs of trauma or fear from the pandemic. Please reach out to the teachers if you have concerns.</li> </ul>

This document will change as the conditions in our community change. You will be notified of changes. This has been approved by the Board of Trustees. If you would like to communicate with any of the trustees, please send your emails to [boardmembers@lamotteschool.com](mailto:boardmembers@lamotteschool.com) You are also welcome to contact me through email at [lburke@lamotteschool.com](mailto:lburke@lamotteschool.com)