STUDENT HEALTH SERVICE-CLINIC CHANGES DUE TO COVID-19

CHANGES IN ASTHMA MANAGEMENT:

Nebulizers- Lawrence Public Schools will not allow students to receive nebulizer treatments while at school. Nebulizers are small air-compressor machines that people with asthma breathe into and out of to administer a liquid form of albuterol. Exhalations through nebulizers used by someone with COVID-19 can spray the virus into the air. Please speak to your doctor about alternative treatments, such as a metered dose inhaler with a spacer, for your child’s school asthma plan.

Metered Dose Inhalers- All metered dose inhalers will require a personal spacer for administration (see picture below). Parents must provide a spacer with their child’s inhaler at school. If your child does not have a spacer, please contact their health care provider.

FOOD SERVICE and MANAGEMENT OF FOOD ALLERGIES:

Because meals require us to remove our masks, each school will be making adjustments to its scheduled meal time procedures. Each school will determine the safest location for meal consumption and share that information to parents.

Keeping these changes in mind, the district will continue to reference the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Voluntary Guidelines for Managing Food Allergies. The following guidelines will be implemented during meal time:

1. A staff member will provide supervision in the designated meal time location where meals or snacks are being eaten and served.

2. Handwashing will be enforced before and after eating.
3. Surfaces will be cleaned following any meal or snack.

4. Students will not be allowed to trade or share food.

5. Students will be assigned a designated table and seating location, and will be spaced 6 feet apart for all meals and snacks.

MASK SAFETY:

According to the CDC, when used consistently and correctly, masks are important to help slow the spread of COVID-19. All school district staff and students will be required to wear a protective face covering while on school property. While masks are strongly encouraged to reduce the spread of COVID-19, LPS recognizes that in the CDC guidelines there are specific instances when wearing a mask may not be feasible. In these instances, parents may complete a USD 497 mask exemption form signed by a physician and submit it to their school for review and approval.

USD 497 Mask Exemption Form

*Please send an extra mask with your student each day.

**USD 497 prohibits the use of masks with vents or valves. The CDC changed its guidelines to read that vented masks do not help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The following information is provided for you by the CDC regarding face masks and children: [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.htm)