

Elizabeth Lee Black School
Health and Safety Plan for
School Closure, Recovery and Safe Return
2022-2023

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Approved Private School | Elizabeth Lee Black School |
| Address | 100 Barber Place Erie, Pennsylvania 16507 |
| Executive Vice President | Maureen Barber-Carey, Ed.D. |
| Email | MaureenBC@barberni.org |
| Phone | 814-878-5903 |
| Fax | 814-878-2771 |
| Website | https://www.barberinstitute.org/children/elizabeth-lee-black-school |
| Last reviewed/updated | January 2022/June 2022 |

Pandemic Coordinator: Maureen Barber-Carey – Executive Vice President

Team responsible for Health and Safety Plan Development and Pandemic Crisis Response:

Maureen Barber-Carey, Executive Vice President
Cindy Priester, Director of Children & Youth
Jodi Gray, Education Coordinator
Kathy Bastow, Quality & Compliance Coordinator
Judith Stewart, Critical Skills Specialist
Ann Ellison, Behavior Services Coordinator
Debra Mercer, Operations Coordinator
Debbie Burbules, Chief Operations Officer
Mike Hill, Director of Facilities
Keri Moore, School Nurse
Laurie Callaghan, Chief Information Officer
Cynthia Primm, Vice President of Human Resources

Input has been gathered from stakeholders through a variety of methods.

The Elizabeth Lee Black School will offer 100% in-person instruction for the 2022-2023 school year. Transitioning to a remote learning model will occur, as needed, due to local conditions and/or County, State, or Federal mandates.

- 1) How will the Local Education Agency (LEA), to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC**

for the reopening and operation of school facilities to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

The Elizabeth Lee Black School will continue to monitor the recommendations from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Pennsylvania Department of Health (PaDOH), and the Governor of Pennsylvania. Recommendations will be implemented to the greatest extent possible. Cleaning/disinfecting (per CDC recommendations), physical distancing (per CDC recommendations), situational use of face coverings/masks and increased personal hygiene practices will continue to be implemented to keep our school open and operating safely. The Elizabeth Lee Black School will continue to assist County and State Departments of Health with contact exposure tracing within the school should there be a positive COVID-19 case within the building.

2) How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?

The Elizabeth Lee Black School is committed to the physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being of our staff and our students. We will continue to follow recommended practice when planning for staff and students to return to school for the 2022-23 school year.

These best practices will include, but not be limited to:

- Maintaining physical distance of at least three (3) feet when possible.
- Providing the supplies necessary for daily routine cleaning and disinfecting.
- Utilizing and providing safety equipment access including face coverings and gloves.
- Encouraging daily self-health checks for symptoms related to COVID-19.
- Students or staff who are ill, or exhibiting symptoms as indicated in the CDC guidance will stay home.
- Maintaining medical privacy while following CDC guidelines for pandemics.
- Providing professional development for staff and opportunities for staff, students, and families to express and discuss their fears and anxieties about returning to in-person instruction.
- Case work and behavioral health services are available to students, onsite daily.
- Providing students and families with access to online instructional materials allowing for intermittent closures or responses necessary due to COVID 19.
- Visitors to the building will be limited to individuals conducting Elizabeth Lee Black School business in accordance with CDC guidance.
- In the event of a temporary transition to remote instruction, all students will have individual technology devices assigned to them through their home school district.

Health and Safety Plan Inspection

To ensure compliance with the Health and Safety Plan steps below, the Elizabeth Lee Black School's Pandemic Team will conduct Health and Safety Plan Inspections once every six months, or as indicated by County, State or Federal mandates/orders.

The Pandemic Team will use the inspection reports to support and ensure that the Elizabeth Lee Black School, to the greatest extent practicable, is implementing prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities.

3) How will the LEA maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC?

1. Wearing face coverings – Masks and face shields are available for staff, students, and visitor use. Individuals may use their own personal masks if desired.

- a. **Transportation:** Students will comply with the requirements of the school district and/or transportation company when riding on transportation provided by the School District. Students and staff will comply with the CDC recommendations (at the time of travel) regarding masking on public transportation provided by the Elizabeth Lee Black School. (See Addendum A).
- b. **Indoors/Outdoors:** All individuals (e.g., staff students, visitors) will only be required to wear a face covering when recommended by the CDC, (see Addendum A) or deemed necessary by Elizabeth Lee Black School Administration based upon local incidence rates.

2. Physical Distancing/Use of Cohorts

- a. Physical distancing of **at least three (3) feet** will be maintained in classrooms, hallways and other common areas within the school as is practicable. At times, three feet distancing cannot be maintained (e.g., hand-over-hand support, assistance with activities of daily living).
- b. Students will travel individually or with their class cohort.

3. Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

- a. Hand washing facilities are available throughout the building.
- b. Hand sanitizer is provided in areas that do not have a sink.
- c. Handwashing and/or hand sanitizing is expected throughout the day.
- d. Single use gloves are available for staff use and visitors.
- e. Staff and students are expected to cover their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing.

4. Cleaning and Maintaining a Healthy Facility, Including Improving Ventilation

- a. In accordance with CDC recommendations, when no individual with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 is known to have been in a space, cleaning once a day is

usually enough to sufficiently remove viruses that may be on surfaces and help maintain a healthy facility.

1. Classrooms will be equipped with a cleaning/disinfecting spray and paper towels to clean high touched surfaces as needed.
 2. Housekeeping staff will clean all classrooms, offices, and communal areas nightly with a cleaning and disinfecting cleaner including high-touch surfaces such as, tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, stair rails, elevator buttons, desks, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
 3. Classroom staff will ensure that keyboards, two-way radios, UKERU pads and shared materials (e.g., pens, shared instructional materials, fidgets, etc.) are cleaned daily with soap and water or the cleaning and disinfecting spray.
 4. Cafeteria tables will be cleaned with a cleaning/disinfecting spray after each use.
- b. All staff and students will be trained in the proper use of cleaning (and disinfecting, if applicable) products.
 - c. The Elizabeth Lee Black School is air conditioned. All air conditioning units have been equipped with air filters consistent with CDC recommendations.
 - d. HVAC systems are set to bring in as much outdoor air as the system will safely allow.

5. Contact Tracing/ Isolation/and Quarantine

In accordance with CDC recommendations, the Elizabeth Lee Black School has adopted the following definitions/expectations:

- a. Staff and students/guardians are to notify the Elizabeth Lee Black School when they are experiencing symptoms or have tested positive for COVID-19. Staff contact the school office. The school nurse will monitor all student COVID-19 cases.
- b. Suspected case of COVID-19 on school grounds:
 1. A student experiencing symptoms will:
 - i. be assessed by the nurse,
 - ii. If indicated, parents will be notified to come pick up the student
 - iii. If a staff member is working with a student, he or she must don appropriate PPE.
 2. A staff member experiencing symptoms will notify their supervisor and leave the building/grounds as soon as they begin to experience symptoms.
 3. All individuals experiencing symptoms are encouraged to contact their health care provider.
- c. If/when, a student, staff member or visitor has been exposed to a positive case of COVID -19 the CDC Quarantine and Isolation guidelines will be followed as indicated in Addendum B.

- d. Confirmed Case of COVID-19 in the building
 1. Elizabeth Lee Black School staff will report the case to the required authorities/governmental agencies and consult with the Erie County or PA Departments of Health for guidance, if needed.
 2. In the case where an entire classroom must quarantine, instruction will continue through an online format.

6. Diagnostic/Screening Tests

- a. Staff and students are encouraged to complete a daily self-health check for symptoms related to COVID-19 and stay home if they are experiencing the following symptoms:

- **Fever**
- **Chills**
- **Body Aches**
- **Headache**
- **Sore throat**
- **Nausea & Vomiting**
- **Diarrhea**
- **Fatigue**
- **Congestion/runny nose**
- **Cough**
- **Shortness of breath/Difficulty breathing**
- **Loss of taste or smell**
- **Confusion or change in mental status**
- **Persistent pain or pressure in chest**
- **Pale, gray, or blue-colored lips or nail bed, depending on skin tone**
- **Inability to wake or stay awake**

- b. Students and/or staff that exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 (as indicated above) are expected to be tested or to remain off the premises until symptoms dissipate. Students will not attend in person when ill.
- c. The Elizabeth Lee Black School is using a test-to-stay program for both staff and students.

7. Vaccinations to School Communities

- a. The Elizabeth Lee Black School will provide community resources about vaccinations in our area.
- b. The Elizabeth Lee Black School is not offering vaccination clinics.

8. Appropriate Accommodations for Children with Disabilities with Respect to Health and Safety Policies

- a. The Elizabeth Lee Black School has established policies and practices related to Health and Safety that are sensitive to the needs of staff and students with medical issues.
- b. The school conducts IEP meetings, in collaboration with the student's home public school district, to address specific and/or unique needs that a student might have related to a safety requirement or mitigation protocol for COVID-19.
- c. Any necessary accommodations identified for students or staff will be made in accordance with State and Federal laws.

9. Coordination with State and Local Health Officials




The Elizabeth Lee Black School will continue to collaborate with the Erie County and PA Departments of Health to monitor and coordinate responses to COVID-19.

Addendum A: When to Wear a Mask

Layered prevention strategies — like staying up to date on vaccines and wearing masks — can help prevent severe illness and reduce the potential for strain on the healthcare system. **Wear a mask with the best fit, protection, and comfort for you.**

Know the COVID-19 Community Level where you live. Community level can be identified at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>. Elizabeth Lee Black School is within State: Pennsylvania, County: Erie

[COVID-19 Community Levels](#) are a tool to help communities decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data.

| Community Level | Recommendation |
|--|--|
| Low  | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wear a mask based on your personal preference, informed by your personal level of risk. |
| Medium  | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you are immunocompromised or at high risk for severe illness<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Talk to your healthcare provider about additional precautions, such as wearing masks or respirators indoors in public.• If you live with or have social contact with someone at high risk for severe illness, consider testing yourself for infection before you get together and wearing a mask when indoors with them. |
| High  | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wear a well-fitting mask indoors in public, regardless of vaccination status or individual risk (including in K-12 schools and other community settings).• If you are immunocompromised or at high risk for severe illness<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Wear a mask or respirator that provides you with greater protection. |

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

COVID-19 QUARANTINE VS. ISOLATION



QUARANTINE

keeps someone who was in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 away from others.

Quarantine if you have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, unless you are up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations or had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days.

If you are up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations

- You do NOT need to quarantine unless you have symptoms
- Wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days following exposure
- Get tested at least 5 days after your exposure

If you are not fully up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations

- Stay home and quarantine for at least 5 full days
- Wear a well-fitting mask if you must be around others in your home
- Get tested at least 5 days after your exposure, even if you don't develop symptoms

If you had confirmed COVID-19 within the past 90 days

- You do NOT need to quarantine unless you develop symptoms



ISOLATION

keeps someone with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 away from others, even in their own home.

During isolation, stay in a separate room and use a separate bathroom, if possible. Wear a well-fitting mask and improve the ventilation in your home.

If you tested positive for COVID-19 or have symptoms, regardless of vaccination status

- Stay home for at least 5 days and isolate from others
- Wear a well-fitting mask if you must be around others in your home

Ending isolation if you had symptoms

- After 5 days and when you are fever-free (without use of fever-reducing medication) and your symptoms are improving

Ending isolation if you did NOT have symptoms

- After at least 5 days after your positive test

If you were severely ill with COVID-19

- Isolate for at least 10 days
- Consult your doctor before ending isolation

Take precautions until day 10

- Wear a well-fitting mask anytime you are around others
- Avoid travel
- Avoid being around people who are at high risk



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for the **Elizabeth Lee Back School** reviewed and approved the Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan on July 5, 2022.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

Yes

No

Affirmed on:

By:



(Signature of Board President)*

William M Gloekler

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature.