



**Subject:** Implementation of Clear Backpack Policy - Important Information for Staff

Dear LCS Family,

We hope this email finds you well. We are writing to inform you about an important policy update that has been recently adopted by Lexington City Schools. The Clear Backpack Policy (Code: 5.33) is now in effect and will impact our daily operations and interactions with students. We kindly request your cooperation and support in implementing this policy to ensure a safe and secure learning environment for our students.

The Clear Backpack Policy aims to regulate the types of backpacks and bags allowed on school premises during the school day. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the key points of the policy:

1. **Backpack Requirements:** Students are required to carry backpacks made of clear plastic, vinyl, or similar transparent materials. Backpacks with colored elements, stripes, colored straps, mesh pockets, or leather reinforced corners are allowed as long as they do not obstruct visibility.
2. **Logos and Branding:** Backpacks may include small company logos or branding, but they should not impede visibility through the backpack.
3. **Additional Small Bag:** Students may carry one additional small bag, not exceeding the dimensions of 6" x 9" x 5". This bag can be carried within or outside the backpack and should also comply with the transparency requirement.
4. **Non-Clear Lunchbox:** Students are allowed to carry a non-clear lunchbox alongside their backpack, but these lunchboxes may be subject to search by school administration or staff.
5. **Medically Necessary Items:** Exceptions may be granted for medically necessary items after proper inspection by school administration.
6. **Athletic/Spirit Bags and Instrument Cases:** Athletic/spirit bags and instrument cases are exempt from the clear backpack requirement. However, these bags must be immediately stored in designated areas upon the student's arrival, as directed by coaches, instructors, staff, and administration.
7. **Prohibited Items:** Prohibited items include primarily mesh backpacks, purses larger than a clutch bag, coolers, briefcases, fanny packs, cinch bags, luggage of any kind,

computer bags, and camera bags. Bags larger than the permissible size for an additional bag are not permitted.

8. It is crucial that we all play a role in implementing and enforcing this policy. We kindly request your assistance in ensuring students comply with the requirements and guidelines outlined in the Clear Backpack Policy. By doing so, we can collectively maintain a safe and secure school environment.

We understand that this policy may require an adjustment period for students and staff alike. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Clear Backpack Policy, please do not hesitate to reach out to your principal, or refer to the complete policy document available on our school district website.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your commitment to the safety and well-being of our students. Together, we can create an environment that fosters learning, growth, and success.

Best regards,

Marcella Elliott