

2020 SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN- FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

The following FAQ is designed to provide as much clarity as possible for students/parents and guardians related to the reopening of school for the 2020 school year. This document will be updated as new information is received by Federal, State and Local guiding authorities.

Please do not hesitate to contact the School directly with any related questions that are not addressed here or if there are any answers you do not understand. We will be updating this document regularly so please stay diligent in following the communication.

Thank you in advance for your patience as we all work to ensure a safe and productive start to the new school year. Despite the challenges, we are confident in and excited about another successful year preparing our students for success!

1) When does school start?

Answer: Classes begin for students on **Monday, August 24, 2020**

2) What learning options will be available at my school this Fall?

Answer: We have options! So long as the county is out of Phase 1 of COVID Response, our school will offer 3 learning options for students to choose from. These options include:

- **Traditional Face-to-Face:** Students who elect this option will attend face to face for your regularly scheduled session daily.
- **Flexible Scheduling:** Students who elect this option will log into a Zoom classroom at the start of their instructional session to record attendance and set goals with their teacher. They will then work remote on their APEX and Reading Plus courses with the ability to log in or call in to speak to teachers throughout their session. Students will be required to attend school face-to-face once per week on an assigned day.
- **Remote Learning:** Students with a pre-existing condition that makes them at high risk with COVID-19 and students living with someone at high risk may elect this option. These students will also log into their Zoom classroom daily at the start of their session to record attendance and set goals with their teacher. They will then work remotely on their APEX and Reading Plus courses with the ability to log in or call in to speak to teachers throughout their session. Students will not be required to come to campus.

If our county is still in Phase 1 at the start of school, only the Remote Learning Option will be available until such time as high schools are approved to begin face-to-face instruction.

- 3) When and how does a student/parent select their learning option?

Answer: The School will hold virtual parent/student meetings in which administrators will review all three instructional learning options, school start dates, and the health and safety protocols that will be in place for the start of the school year. Parents/students will then be sent a confidential survey to elect their option.

- 4) How long are these learning options available?

Answer: Based on State guidance at the present time, the multiple learning options will be available at least until the end of the first Semester in January. This is subject to change and or to extension based on guidance established by the CDC, local health departments and the Department of Education/Instruction. We will keep parents and students informed of any and all changes as they are communicated.

- 5) Will students be able to change their learning option after school starts?

Answer: Yes, students/parents may request to change their learning option if their circumstance changes or if their elected option is not working well for them or not allowing them to make adequate academic progress. Students/Parents can make this request directly to their advisory teacher who will assist them in updating their plan.

- 6) If the District delays their start date will we follow the delayed start as well?

Answer: Our start date may or may not match our local School District's start date. Because of our shorter school day, we may not have the opportunity to meet state required instructional time with a delayed start.

However, if our local School District delays face to face instruction, we will only start with the remote learning option until such time as the School District opens their schools for face to face instruction.

Please watch our website, social media updates, and update calls and texts for the latest information related to the start of school and the 2020-2021 Instructional Calendar.

- 7) Will staff and parents be notified if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?

Answer: Per Contact Tracing Protocol, School Administrators will contact only students/parents and staff that have come in contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case to inform of possible exposure and provide guidance in accordance with CDC recommendations on follow-up testing and self-quarantine. Please review the screening procedures defined in our Reopening Plan for more information on the added health and safety protocol that will be in place to identify and isolate potentially infected students and staff prior to the start of each instructional session.

- 8) What is required for a COVID-19 positive student or staff to return to school/work?

Answer: In accordance with CDC guidelines, before an infected student or staff may return to the school they must have a release from a doctor and proof of two negative COVID-19 tests. These rules are subject to change based on the guidance provided by the CDC. We will keep students/parents/guardians and staff informed if/when these guidelines change.

- 9) If a student tests positive for COVID-19, will they still be able to get credit for attendance by participating in the remote learning option?

Answer: Yes! Students who are required to quarantine are encouraged to continue engaging in school through our remote learning option. Additionally, our Family Support Specialists will be available to the student and family to assist with non-academic needs.

- 10) If students choose remote learning, what are the requirements for seat time/completed work?

Answer: Students participating in the remote or the flexible learning option will be required to log into their Zoom classroom daily. Students will earn credit for attendance when they log in at the start of their sessions and after they demonstrate learning progress in their assigned courses by turning in off-line assignments; passing unit tests and quizzes; leveling up in Reading Plus; and turning in pacing guides for assigned Personal/Social Courses.

- 11) When will the school resume face-to-face new student orientation and what will it entail?

Answer: New student orientation sessions may begin as early as the week before the start of school. Face-to-Face sessions will only be facilitated under the following circumstances:

- **The County must be in Phase 2 allowing for face-to-face instruction (Phase 1 counties will only offer virtual new student orientation)**
- **No more than 10 face-to-face participants (including teachers)**
- **Every participants (including staff) must wear a protective mask throughout the orientation session**
- **Time will be established between sessions to allow for sanitization of the space before a new group arrives**

Any student/parent not comfortable participating in a face-to-face session will be scheduled for a virtual orientation session. New student orientation is required prior to being assigned courses.

If you are a new student and have not received information about the orientation options and dates, please reach out to the school immediately.

12) What's the protocol if a student refuses to use a mask?

Answer: As advised by the CDC and for the health and safety of all students and staff, everyone in the school building shall be required to wear a facemask at all times. Facemasks will be available for free for all students and guests upon arrival each day. Exceptions will only be made for medical necessities as determined by the CDC guidelines. Individuals that do not meet the CDC guidelines for the mask exceptions will be expected to wear a mask. Refusal to comply with this health and safety precaution will result in disciplinary action to include dismissal from the school until compliance occurs.

13) What procedures will be implemented to ensure smaller class size for greater social distancing?

Answer: Students will be offered three instructional options including one that minimizes the number of days on campus and one that involves only remote learning. Based on student survey responses, these three options will allow for much smaller in-class numbers providing sufficient opportunity to ensure that students and staff have optimal social distancing. The schools will schedule the one day of required attendance for the Flexible Schedule option to keep the number of students on campus minimized at all times.

14) If a student selects the Flexible Schedule learning option, how do they know what day they are assigned to attend and will there be flexibility to change their dates or session times if and when needed?

Answer: Students who elect the Flexible Schedule option will be required to attend school face-to-face for one session per week. Student's will request their preferred day and session time upon enrollment or at the start of the new school year when they select their learning option. School Administration will make every effort to assign students to their preferred day/time and will closely monitor scheduling to ensure appropriate class sizes at all times.

In the event that a student needs to change their assigned face-to-face session or day, they will make the request through their advisory teacher who can confirm if space will allow. So long as there is sufficient space to accommodate appropriate social distancing, the School will be flexible to meet individual student scheduling needs.

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