Loveland Classical Schools’ Return to School Plan, 2.0 (8/11/20)
Academics

LCS Academic Program

Parent Choice

Ever since LCS’s inception, parent choice, input, and engagement have always been crucial to our students’ success, and it is going to remain essential to the success of our safe re-opening of in-person school this fall.

Protecting the health of vulnerable populations, including our students, families and educators, is an important priority in our planning. We know that each family will have different levels of comfort during this time, and LCS is providing the option for both in-person and remote, online learning models for our students, grades K-12. Details for both in-person and remote, online learning models are provided in the sections below.

In this manner, with health safety a priority as we return to in-person school, our students’ academics is as equally important for us as LCS offer our high-quality academic program, both in-person and remote, for our students in grades K-12.

In-person Learning

LCS’s plan for a return to in-person school implements the following models:

Elementary, grades K-5, at the Lyceum Campus: Daily in-person classes in a cohort model

Middle and High Schools, grades 6-12, at the Academy Campus: Hybrid model with in-person classes 2 days a week and cohort grouping

1. The first day of school for LCS remains Tuesday, September 1.
2. The return to in-person school will occur with safety protocols in place, developed in coordination with local health agencies, including socially distancing when possible, face coverings, and other safe practices to provide layers of protection for students and staff. Please see the specifics of these Larimer County Department of Health and Environment (LCDHE) protocols in the “LCS Physical Safety Guidelines” document (“2.0”, 8/11/20).

3. LCS’s K-5 program will remain on a full-day class schedule on a daily basis, while LCS’s 6-12 program will implement a hybrid model towards maintaining social distancing during the day.

   a. In the hybrid model for grades 6-12, all students will learn from home on Mondays. Group A students will study in-person on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and Group B students will study in-person on Wednesdays and Fridays. An asynchronous model will be implemented for school on the days students study remotely at-home.

4. Students will engage in their school day with their typical classes and remain with the same group or “cohort” of classmates to the extent that is practicable. There is no specific number of students for a cohort. The number of personal interactions will be minimized throughout the school day as much as possible.

5. In grades K-2, 4 teachers will enter the cohort on a daily basis; for grades 3-5, 3 teachers will enter the cohort model on a daily basis. Students in grades K-12 will receive in-person instruction in their core content areas along with opportunities for specials and elective courses.

6. In the middle and high schools, a block schedule for core classes will be implemented for the days students are in-person at school.

7. LCS’s daily class schedules are currently being revised to minimize student transitions and limit the mixing of students from other cohorts. As in previous years, class schedules are finalized in August when all our teachers and staff return to work from the summer, and these will be communicated in a subsequent message in August when this phase of planning is finalized. However, LCS’s entire K-12 program will remain on a full-day schedule on the days when students are at school.

8. LCS high school students will attend their courses available at LCS and will not be allowed to attend classes at other schools in the fall semester. This will be reviewed for spring semester to determine if the restriction can be lifted.

   a. An exception to this will be to meet student IEP and/or 504 plans.

9. Teachers will utilize a structure of both in person and remote learning, with LCS in-person courses live-streamed (focused on the teacher) for families that choose that their students learn from home.

10. Students enrolling for in-person learning at LCS are expected to adhere to all LCS/LCDHE health guidelines, protocols and procedures at LCS; attendance at school will serve as agreement to these terms. Administrative transfer to LCS’s online, at-home school option is available to the LCS administration if purposeful refusal by a student to follow safety guidelines is determined to be a community health concern within LCS’s in-person model.

LCS Return to School Plan _“LCS Academic Program”, 2.0 - 8/11/2020
**Remote, Online Learning**

1. Families may choose to have students engage in learning through a fully remote, online option for school. Please complete the sign-up form here: [https://forms.gle/DRdBoSHzdWtQhp6](https://forms.gle/DRdBoSHzdWtQhp6)

2. Courses will be taught by our teachers using LCS’s classical model and curriculum using a synchronous, live-stream of courses following their student’s daily schedule. By opting into the remote, online learning model, your family and student are agreeing to use the synchronous model to follow her/his courses throughout their class schedule during the day.

3. Attendance will be recorded regularly through Infinite Campus and will be based on a combination of attendance in teacher sessions, time on task with class content from home, and offline assignments submitted.

4. Once registered, LCS students in grades K-12 will stay in online learning for at least a semester. However, it is possible to move from in-person learning at school to the remote, online learning option at any time during an ongoing term in the school year.

5. Adult family members will need to engage and provide supervision and mentoring support.

6. Drive through “to go” meals will be available to students in the remote, online program.

**Special Programs**

**English Language Development (ELD)**

Students will be accessing English Language Development services outside of their general education cohort in small groups.

**Gifted and Talented (GT)**

Students will be accessing Gifted and Talented services outside of their general education cohort in small groups.

**Section 504**

Students with 504 Plans may or may not have health care plans. Attention to the requirements of the health care plan is paramount. Students who have a 504 plan typically have accommodations and may have related services. 504 Plans, just like Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), are legally binding documents and must be implemented as written. These students fully attend general education classes. Prior to the beginning of the school year, teachers will become familiar with students’ plans.

**Special Education (Exceptional Student Services-ESS)**

LCS’s ESS program to provide ESS services for qualifying students is directly coordinated with the Thompson School District (TSD). The plan described below is from the original TSD/LCDHE “Return to Learn” Plan, and any possible adjustments in coordination with TSD will be communicated to the families of students who receive ESS services at LCS.
It is with great anticipation that Student Support Services prepares for the 2020-21 school year. While ensuring compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, in coordination with TSD, LCS is committed to meeting the social, emotional, behavioral and academic needs of each student. As plans for the opening of the 2020-2021 school year are thoughtfully developed, Student Support Services understands the importance of ensuring the health and safety of our staff and students, with special consideration given for our most vulnerable students. All students with disabilities will attend school or the online option (if appropriate) unless placement and/or program is otherwise determined by an IEP Team or 504 Committee based on the student's individualized needs.

1. Some students with disabilities will attend school just as they did previously. This is able to happen because their programming involves fewer students in a classroom, is more contained, and naturally creates a specific cohort of students.

2. Students with disabilities who spend the majority of their school day in general education classes will follow the same schedule as typically developing peers in their identified cohort, while also engaging in the services identified in the IEP.

3. At times, some students attending a brick and mortar school may receive specialized instruction and related services through teletherapy.

4. Students with disabilities may attend the online program if they are able to access the content with accommodations and modifications as determined by an IEP team.

5. As students with disabilities return to school, we realize that this may produce anxiety for many reasons. Students may not want to leave family, may fear exposure to illness or may have difficulty with changes in routine or transitions. The focus of staff as students return will be to welcome them while supporting their social, emotional, behavioral and mental health needs. Building relationships between staff and students will lay the critical foundation necessary for future learning.

6. Staff will update health plans, IEPs and 504 plans as appropriate with any new information that is available.

7. Once students have engaged in the “back-to-school” experience and have settled in, staff will re-teach expectations and routines as necessary.

8. Staff will begin informal assessment of students’ current levels of performance.

9. Specialized instruction and related services will begin.

10. Assessment for triennial re-evaluations of identified students will be conducted.

11. We will continue to meet our Child Find obligations through initial evaluations or implementation of the RtI process with ongoing progress monitoring. Any data collection or procedures that were unable to be completed during the shelter-at-home time will be completed as a priority.

12. In an effort to reduce the spread of the virus:
a. IEP meetings will continue to be offered virtually; this will decrease travel time for itinerant staff and increase the ability for parents to meaningfully participate.

b. For parents who are unable to access a device or the Internet, meetings will be held in-person, following all district-adopted safety protocols.

c. Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) will be provided for staff.

d. Students will be grouped in cohorts and travel within buildings will be minimized.

e. Itinerant teachers will reduce travel among buildings. For specified blocks of time, the provision of services will alternate between direct instruction and remote instruction for students on their caseload who attend different schools.

f. Equipment, supplies and materials will be designated for individual use.

g. All ESS staff will follow guidance from the district’s health services team when addressing students’ health/medical needs.

h. Students with disabilities will wear masks and employ physical distancing to the greatest extent possible.

**Potentially High Risk Activities within the In-Person School Experience**

LCS strongly supports the integration of athletic programs and performing arts as part of our classical, liberal arts model. We believe these activities not only promote community and sportsmanship, they are fundamental to the human experience. We realize these activities may inhibit the ability to wear face coverings and may conflict physical distancing guidelines; however, through thoughtful planning and well-implemented and proactive measures, we believe we can safely provide all students an experience where the risks are lowered and rewards are high.

**Athletics**

1. In-line with TSD, LCS will follow all guidelines provided by the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) and the recommendations from the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) regarding team sports and activities.

2. LCS is following consultation of national, state, and local health department and school district protocols and guidance in the creation of our “phased” return to in-person activities plan.

3. LCS will require all parents/students participating in athletics to sign an Assumption of Risk Waiver indicating their understanding of the health and safety risks and protocols in place to reduce the exposure to the coronavirus.

4. In compliance with any health orders, there is a possibility that students may be asked to withdraw from participating in athletics.

5. Participants will be grouped in student cohorts to minimize the potential for spreading the virus. If someone becomes sick, we will be able to quickly identify other students who have been in contact with that student because of these cohort groups.
6. Based on national and state guidelines, LCS’s athletic coordinator and coaches have participated in several training presentations to ensure a clear understanding of the required safety measures and protocols that have been established to minimize the exposure or spread of coronavirus.

**Choir, Band, Orchestra**

1. Choir, band and orchestra will practice in-person when physical distancing can be achieved. Physical distancing for these classes will be expanded beyond the current six feet.

2. The amount of time playing band instruments and singing during class time will be limited until restrictions have been eased.

3. Some examples of adaptations may include that students will be encouraged to video themselves playing instruments/singing and use class time for review and/or individual instruction.

4. Music will be projected on screens whenever possible or students will be provided a personal copy of the music. There will be no sharing of music.

5. Use of a handheld microphone will be highly discouraged with students and a lapel microphone should be used in its place when possible (unless disinfecting can be done between uses).

6. More information will be shared as additional guidance is provided.

**Lab Classes**

1. Adequate supplies will be provided to minimize sharing of high-touch materials to the extent possible (lab supplies, equipment, etc.) or limit use of supplies and equipment by one group of students at a time and disinfect between use.

2. Virtual learning options will be utilized to the extent possible.

**Assemblies/Field Trips**

1. All school events such as school assemblies, pep rallies, plays, dances, concerts, back-to-school nights, etc. will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine whether or not they can safely be held.

2. All field trips and/or other activities outside of school will not be allowed at the start of school. Decisions later may be made on a case-by-case basis, but must be reviewed by the building principal and the LCS Executive Director.

**Technology for Learning**

LCS has purchased many more Chromebooks for student use to facilitate computer-based learning when needed at school and for remote, online learning options for LCS families. Please note if you are in need of a Chromebook when you request participation in LCS’s remote, online learning option.