

# **SY20-21 LEA Continuous Education and School Recovery Plan Sample Responses**

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#### Introduction

In order to receive a waiver for the regulatory requirements on school calendars (i.e., 180 instructional days at six hours of instruction per day) for the 2020-21 academic year, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) required local education agencies (LEAs) in the District of Columbia to draft and submit continuous education plans aligned to the parameters set forth in the agency's <u>Guiding Principles for Continuous Education</u>.

Due prior to the start of SY20-21, the <u>continuous education plan application</u> asked LEAs to enumerate the ways in which they planned to foster a safe learning environment and rigorous educational content during the public health emergency – regardless of the format in which instruction is delivered. Following submission, staff from both OSSE and the DC Public Charter School Board (PCSB) with related content knowledge conducted two intensive rounds of review on each question, assessing responses for completion, clarity, and compliance. Throughout the process, LEAs were given feedback and the opportunity to revise their plans. Following final approval, each LEA posted their plan publicly.

OSSE is publishing this selection of sample responses to ensure that stakeholders across the education landscape can better understand the approaches that LEAs are taking toward continuous education during this unprecedented time and to provide LEAs the chance to understand what their colleagues have planned. The responses contained herein are a sample of the strong responses that met completion, clarity, and quality requirements and are intended to serve as a helpful reference for their peers.

### Cleaning

NOTE: OSSE did not provide formal comments to public charter LEAs for these questions.

### Question(s)

- 1. Describe LEA's plan to keep building clean.
  - a. What is the cleaning schedule? For example, what happens weekly, daily, and multiple times per day?
  - b. How you will ensure buildings are clean if/when an individual in a school community tests positive for COVID-19 (e.g., work with an outside vendor specializing in deep cleaning or train in-house janitorial staff to ensure cleaning standards are met)?

### Sample Responses

LEA A and LEA B submitted detailed plans that complied with OSSE Health and Safety Guidelines; the measures taken by these LEAs to promote and ensure physical distancing were extensive.

In particular, LEA A outlined a comprehensive daily schedule that not only detailed the timetables by which certain cleaning and/or disinfecting tasks are to be completed, but also provided information breaking down the frequency by which common objects within the school were to be treated to reduce the likelihood of viral transmission and a clear protocol for addressing potential COVID cases within the school community.

LEA B's response was mindful of the ways in which staff must be sensitive of the impact of cleaning products on young children and provided information on how the LEA will balance the need to clean and disinfect the building while also ensuring the safety of its learners. The LEA also laid out a plan for maintaining a sanitary environment in response to a positive COVID diagnosis.

## **LEA Detail**

LEA Name	LEA Response
	·
LEA A	(LEA also submitted a table explaining the frequency of cleanings for high-touch areas.)
	Cleaning schedule for the contracted custodians regularly employed to LEA A;
	Daily 6:00am-6:30pm:
	<ul> <li>One custodian and one security guard are assigned to each floor in the building.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Custodians are responsible to clean, disinfect and sanitize high touch areas in classrooms and common areas</li> </ul>
	multiple times per day and as needed.
	Teachers and Aides will wipe down and sanitize the student desks in their own classrooms two times per day and
	·
	more as needed.

• Security is responsible to sanitize (wipe or spray with disinfectant) high touch areas in common areas multiple times per day and as needed.

#### Nightly 8:00pm-12:00am

• Contracted cleaning company will clean, disinfect and sanitize entire building each night.

### Nightly Two Times Per Week:

• Contracted cleaning company will deep clean all classrooms and common areas two times per week every Wednesday and Friday.

Cleaning, Sanitization, and Disinfection of Affected Spaces (Confirmed COVID-19 Case)

### Exposure Reporting, Notification, and Disinfecting

To ensure a clear and efficient process for communication, the school has identified the school nurse as the internal COVID-19 point of contact (POC). This person is responsible for ensuring the below steps are followed in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19. She will also act as the point of contact for families and staff to notify if a child or staff member test positive for COVID-19.

### Step 1: Report to DC Health Department

In the event the school identifies a student or a staff member who has tested COVID-19 positive, the school nurse will notify DC Health (DC Health guidelines) by emailing coronavirus@dc.gov with the following information;

- "COVID-19 Consult" in the email subject line
- Name and direct phone number of the point of contact for DC Health to return the call
- Short summary of the incident or situation

## Step 2: Communication to Families and Staff

The school's communication protocols that protect the privacy of individuals and alert their families and staff to a COVID-19 case, will be enacted. Communication will include:

- Notification to all staff and families in the event of change of school schedule,
- Notification to those staff and families of students in close contact with the individual and will state the requirement to quarantine for 14 days; and
- Notification to the all stakeholders that there was a COVID-19 positive case and that hose impacted have been told to guarantine, and all areas that the individual was in contact with will be cleaned, sanitized, and disinfected.

Notification to parents will be made through robo calls, mass emails and group texts messages to the school and parent body. Information will also be posted on the school's website. Step 3: Cleaning, Sanitization, and Disinfection of Affected Spaces In the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case of a student or staff member, the school will follow all steps outlined by DC Health and CDC guidelines for cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing. If seven days or fewer have passed since the person who is sick used the facility, the school will follow these steps: o Close off areas used by the person who is sick. Open outside doors to increase air circulation in the areas, when possible. o Wait up to 24 hours or as long as possible before cleaning or disinfecting to allow respiratory droplets to settle. o Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as classrooms, bathrooms, and common If more than seven days have passed since the person who is sick used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary. The school will continue routine cleaning and disinfecting. LEA B will have equipment and procedures in place to clean and filter the air throughout the building. LEA B LEA B will follow these steps: Our janitorial day team will routinely clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched. This includes cleaning objects/surfaces not ordinarily cleaned daily (e.g., doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops). • Our staff will thoroughly clean and disinfect thermometers before and after each use per manufacturer's instructions. • For all cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting products, we will follow the manufacturer's instructions for concentration, application method, contact time, and drying time before use by a child. See CDC's guidance for safe and correct application of disinfectants. Additionally, we will communicate regularly with our janitorial team to ensure they are following instructions. Cleaning providers will place signage in every classroom reminding staff of cleaning protocols. Last spring when COVID hit, we developed and implemented a schedule for increased, routine cleaning, disinfection and sanitization. This schedule will remain in effect throughout the school year while we fight the spread of COVID-19. We will limit the use of shared objects (e.g., gym or physical education equipment, art supplies, toys, games).

Toys and materials will be frequently cleaned and sanitized throughout the day.

- Toys that have been in children's mouths or soiled by bodily secretions must be immediately set aside. These toys will be cleaned and sanitized by a staff member wearing gloves before being used by another child.
- Machine washable toys should be used by only one child and laundered in between uses.
- All our students' mats/cots and bedding are individually labeled and stored.
- Playground structures will be included as part of routine cleaning (as defined in <u>District guidance on cleaning</u> and <u>disinfecting</u>), especially high-touch surfaces (e.g., handlebars), but do not need to be disinfected. See USE OF SPACES COMMUNAL USE SPACE or remove if playground is closed.
- We will strongly recommend that bathrooms will be used by specific groups of students and staff and we will assign and share these groups with staff and teachers.
- LEA B and our janitorial team will safely and correctly store cleaning and disinfection products.
- LEA B staff will ensure that there is adequate ventilation when using cleaning products to prevent children or themselves from inhaling toxic fumes.

### Positive COVID-19 Case Cleaning Schedule

In the event of a positive COVID-19 case in our community, LEA B will control spread by disinfecting all exposed materials and limit personnel from entering the contaminated area(s). No individual(s) will be allowed in the potentially contaminated area(s) directly following identification of a known positive case without gloves and masks and other PPE, as deemed necessary. We will ask our janitorial crew to conduct thorough cleaning and disinfecting. Additionally, we will place UVC portable units within that space for several hours to thoroughly clean the air.

## Specifically, here is our deep cleaning plan:

- 1. Cleaning is the removal of germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. Cleaning does not kill germs, but by removing them it lowers their numbers and the risk of spreading infection. When cleaning we will use a disinfectant.
- 2. Disinfecting is our staff spraying on all surfaces the National Chemical Laboratories Dual Blend #19 Lavender Disinfectant to kill germs on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs, but by killing germs on a surface after cleaning it, it further lowers the risk of spreading infection. We spray the National Chemical Laboratories Dual Blend #19 Lavender Disinfectant on the surface and then allow the proper dwell time for the disinfectant agents to do the job and kill viruses, bacteria, etc.
- 3. Light Disinfectant Spray. On soft surfaces and hard to reach and/or packed surfaces in offices, storage spaces, classrooms, libraries, etc. our staff, during the disinfection process will lightly spray these areas with disinfectant.

- 4. Light Wipe. After the National Chemical Laboratories Dual Blend #19 Lavender Disinfectant has dwelled and done its job, we then do a light wiping of the surface to remove any excess residue. All areas listed below shall have all available hard surfaces thoroughly disinfected. This includes, but is not limited to:
  - o Doors (both glass and solid wood)
  - Hard surface floors will be swept and mopped
  - All walls (up to 6' in height)
  - o Carpeted areas will be sprayed with disinfectant as we clean the rooms and vacuumed.
  - o Tables and chairs throughout
  - Administrative/Staff Areas
  - o Entrance doorways inside and outside of doors
  - o Cleaning of student cubbies
  - Empty cubbies will be cleaned inside and out. Cubbies with contents inside will be disinfectant light sprayed on the inside and sanitized cleaned on the outside
  - Teachers' desks
  - Student desktops and other learning spaces
  - o Bookshelves (with books remaining on the shelves)
  - Storage cubbies
  - o Waste and recycling receptacles
  - o Window sills that are cleared to reach with open space
  - All restrooms will be sanitized and cleaned throughout the facility, this shall include all tiled walls, partitions, and floor surfaces, sinks, toilets, and urinals.

### Classrooms Throughout the School

The classrooms are inclusive of specialty rooms such as science labs, art rooms, music rooms, etc.

## Administrative/Staff Areas

Additionally, other areas listed below shall have all available hard surfaces thoroughly disinfected:

- Reception Area
- Offices
- Faculty Room
- Nurse Room
- Conference Rooms

### **Physical Changes to the Environment**

NOTE: OSSE did not provide formal comments to public charter LEAs for these questions.

### Question(s)

2. Describe physical changes to the environment to ensure or promote social distancing.

### Sample Responses

Both LEA A and LEA B submitted thorough plans that seek to maximize the amount of space between students, leverage the physical surroundings of the school building, limit contact between individuals, and reduce occupancy to curb the spread of COVID. Some of the specific tactics named include one-way flow of foot traffic in hallways and stairwells; the assigning of seats, desks, and spaces to particular students; staggering of transition and movement times; and limiting of shared objects. The LEAs also shared information on cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing schedules for high touch areas.

#### **LEA Detail**

LEA Name	LEA Response
LEA A	<ul> <li>Use of Space</li> <li>The school will take the following measures in its use of space:</li> <li>Access to the building will be limited to two entrances which are equipped with infrared cameras for checking body temperature. Temperature readings of 100.4 will result in denied access to the building.</li> <li>At each designated entrance, a pre-screening questionnaire will be administered as provided by OSSE's guidance. Any individual responding with "yes" to any question on the pre-screener, will also be denied access to the building.</li> <li>Marking along walkways leading to the entrances will indicate six feet apart.</li> <li>Arrival and dismissal will follow a staggered schedule (more details provided later in the plan) with 30 minutes intervals. This allows for smaller, more controlled groups of students entering the building at any one time. This lessens the possibility of large gatherings.</li> <li>Remove unnecessary furniture to create the space needed for maximum number of students, with social distancing guidelines indoor.</li> <li>Students will have assigned seats throughout the day, in an assigned classroom; a cohort. The upper grades will face the same direction (rather than facing each other) to reduce transmission from virus-containing droplets (e.g., from talking, coughing, sneezing).         <ul> <li>Individual desks will all be turned to face the same direction and students will be staggered to maintain six feet distance.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Students in the lower grades will sit on either end of a rectangular table, separated by the use of plastic flexible screens.</li> </ul>

- o Individual carpet shapes that will be cleaned daily, will be used during floor time. Each student will be assigned a single shape. The shapes will be six feet apart.
- o No more than 3 students will be assigned at a table designed for 6, and no more than 2 students at tables designed for 4.
- All available space within the building will be maximized while observing 6 feet apart
- Limited number of occupants in any space based on the "Phase" per DC health requirement, currently maximum 12 individuals to any persons and an occasional 1 additional person for a brief period or as necessary to support individual student needs. The same measures will be applicable to class sessions being held outdoors.
- Communal-use spaces such as staff break room, library, learning pod, general conference room, cafeteria, pool and the gymnasium will be closed.
  - o Communal-use spaces which are not closed, will stagger use providing time for cleaning and disinfecting between use and maintaining six feet of distancing at all times.
    - Playground
    - Multi-sensory room
    - Refrigerator, microwaves, etc. for staff
    - Conference room for IEP meetings which could not be facilitated virtually
- Physical education classes will be held outside, weather permitting, and students will maintain proper distancing
  using visual cues (cones to mark the ground where students should stand). No interactive activities will be
  permitted (e.g. basketball, football, soccer)
- A designated area, with its own entry way, will be available for any student or staff who exhibit symptoms, such as a fever or a cough, until the individual can be safely removed from the facility. This area will be separate from the area used for routine healthcare. The area will be sanitized once it has been used by an adult or student.
- Pre-K student's cots will be placed head to toe during nap times. At the end of the nap schedule, cots will be sanitized daily before being stacked for next use. Blankets and sheets will be placed in student's personal bags for safe keeping and kept in personalized cubbies.

## Use of Hallways

- Hallways will include occupant traffic flow direction marking on the floor and on the walls, maintaining one-way
  traffic where possible and two-way traffic separated by six feet or maximum possible where space is not
  sufficient.
- Additional signage including decals on the floor, posters with symbols and words will be used as needed to provide direction and instruction for movement.
- Stairways are designated for one-way traffic flow for ascending or descending.

### LEA B

#### Use of Space

LEA B will help keep individuals apart by taking the following steps:

- Ensure we have a minimum of six feet distance between desks, tables, and other learning spaces.
- Limit the number of individuals in a given space to help keep individuals 6 feet apart. For example:
  - No classroom will have more than 9 students and 1 or 2 adults, with classroom capacity based on total square feet.
  - o The front lobby will have no more than 4 individuals plus the receptionist.
  - o The lobby will have no more than 1 individual plus the receptionists.
  - o If needed, we will create a space for 12 individuals to be on each side of the MPR.
- Individual work spaces will be staggered and spaced to maintain six feet distance.
  - o Individual carpet squares for students PK3 K used for floor time will be cleaned daily. Each student will be assigned a single square. The squares will be six feet apart.
  - o If sitting across from one-another at tables, students will maintain a 6-foot distance.
- Many of LEA B's communal-use spaces (such as staff break rooms and cafeteria) will be closed to group gatherings. Communal-use spaces not closed will stagger use providing time for cleaning and disinfecting between use and maintain six feet of distancing at all times. These spaces include for example:
  - o Photocopier, cutting boards, book rooms, etc.
  - o Playground, balls and recess equipment
  - o Refrigerator, microwaves, etc. for staff
- Physical activity will be held outside, weather permitting, and students will maintain proper distancing using visual cues (e.g., mark the ground where students should stand). No interactive activities will be permitted (e.g. basketball, football, soccer).
- Physical barriers, such as plastic flexible screens, will be installed in some areas, like bathroom sinks and urinals, at the front lobby desk, and at the REEF reception.
- A designated area, with its own ventilation, will be available for any student or staff who exhibit symptoms, such as a fever or a cough, until the individual can be safely removed from the facility. This area will be separate from the area used for routine healthcare.
- Place students head to toe and 6 feet apart during nap times.
- The north side of LEA B's stairwell will be used for going up the stairs and the south side of LEA B's stairwell will be used for going down the stairs. The middle stairwell will allow individuals to go both up or down the stairs as long as no one else is on the stairs at the same time. Individuals must wait at the top, middle, or bottom landings to let others use the stairs so that only one person at a time is using the middle stairwell.
- Parents will be allowed onto campus for drop off and pick up. They must park in the neighborhood and walk up using their designated entrance. They must wear masks and time is limited to 15 minutes or less.

• LEA B's outdoor spaces will be divided into zones, and only 12 individuals at any given time can be in that outdoor zone. LEA B's master calendar will outline which classes are able to use those zones and when.

## Use of Hallways

Hallways will include occupant traffic flow direction marking on the floor, maintaining one-way traffic where possible.

Maintaining 6 feet between individuals will be very important, especially in LEA B's relatively narrow hallways. We will have floor markers 6 feet to help staff and students maintain good distance. Additionally, we will have wall art to remind students and staff to maintain 6 feet and wear masks while in the hallways. Additionally, we will monitor the hallways to ensure a minimal number of individuals are in the hallway at any given time. To foster careful transitions within the hallways, we will allow students and teachers extra time to get from one place to another.

#### Ventilation

NOTE: OSSE did not provide formal comments to public charter LEAs for these questions.

### Question(s)

3. What have you done to ensure adequacy of ventilation at the school?

### Sample Responses

Given what is known about the airborne spread of the coronavirus, LEA A and LEA B have taken steps to make certain that the flow of air through their buildings is significant and frequent enough to suppress transmission. The LEAs will install more effective filtration, clean their HVAC systems, and, in the case of LEA B, utilize ultraviolet light units to clean the air of viral particles.

In addition, both LEAs shared plans to flush or otherwise clean the water systems in their buildings prior to reopening to eliminate the possibility that other diseases caused by stagnant water in pipes may spread.

#### **LEA Detail**

LEA Name	LEA Response
LEA A	Ventilation We have had our outside contractor for HVAC (WL Gary) provide us with an assessment and recommendations. All filters in the building are scheduled to be replaced with MERV 14 over the next few weeks to improve air quality. The vendor will provide HVAC system cleaning as needed.
	<ul> <li>Water System</li> <li>We intend to provide bottled water to students initially. We are also seeking proposals for touchless water fountains for refilling bottles. We will use our outside vendor for plumbing to follow the guidance below to flush all water systems. We will;</li> <li>Flush hot and cold water through all points of use such as sinks, drinking fountains, toilets, urinals.</li> <li>Water heater will be set to 140 degrees Fahrenheit and hot water will be flushed at each fixture using hot water until its maximum temperature is reached.</li> </ul>
LEA B	<ul> <li>LEA B has already made a lot of investments in ventilation and plans to do more</li> <li>We use hospital-grade air filters in our ventilation systems. While they cost more, these special filters reduce a variety of germs contaminants and help everyone breathe easier.</li> <li>Our large classroom windows maximize exposure to daylight, and they open wide for great ventilation.</li> <li>A few years ago, we made a significant investment by adding a state-of-the-art HVAC system to ensure fresh air circulates through every classroom throughout the day.</li> </ul>

In June 2020, LEA B engaged Setty--a highly regarded facilities consultant--to help us identify ways to further improve ventilation and air quality within our building. Based on Setty's assessment, we've taken the following steps:

- Purchased 10 portable UVC units, so that we can thoroughly clear the air in a room where an ill child had been.
- We also plan to purchase humidifiers for each classroom to add weight to any germ / virus and sinking it to the ground.

#### Water System

Prior to reopening after any prolonged shutdown, LEA B will flush all water systems to clear out stagnant water and replace it with fresh water. This process will remove any metals (e.g., lead) that may have leached into the water and minimize risk of Legionnaires' disease and other diseases associated with water following <a href="CDC guidance">CDC guidance</a> and as described below:

- Flush hot and cold water through all points of use such as sinks, drinking fountains, toilets, urinals.
- Water heater will be set to 140 degrees Fahrenheit and hot water will be flushed at each fixture using hot water until its maximum temperature is reached.
- Additional water using devices will be flushed in accordance with manufacturers' instructions.

## **School Operations**

NOTE: OSSE did not provide formal comments to public charter LEAs for these questions.

#### Question

4. Outline the LEA's plan for SY2020-21 school operations to ensure all students have safe access to instruction, either in person or at home. Describe, in detail, student and staff schedules, arrival/dismissal procedures, plan for distributing educational materials, plan to oversee before/after care and extracurricular activities, plan to provide meals, and plan to provide personal protective equipment (PPE). Be sure to follow the <a href="mailto:public health">public health</a> guidance.

#### Sample Responses

LEA A and LEA B both culminated their responses regarding physical health and safety in their highly detailed submissions for school operations. Both LEAs promote physical distancing with extensive planning and consideration for how to maintain a safe and healthy learning environment during every part of the school day during times of live, face-to-face instruction. From the time students arrive for the start of the day to when the final child departs from afterschool programming and every point in between, LEA A and LEA B have paid close attention in creating processes and procedures to maintain adequate spacing, ensure cleanliness and hygiene, and respond appropriately in cases where a positive test has been reported.

LEA B also included sample instructional schedules for virtual, hybrid, and in-person instruction.

## **LEA Detail**

LEA Name	LEA Response
LEA A	(LEA also included virtual, hybrid, and in-person instructional schedules for all grades served.)
	Physical and Social Distancing
	The safety of our teachers, staff, students, and their families is our number one priority when offering on-site learning. Individuals in the facility will maintain a distance of six feet of separation between each other and have not more than the maximum number of individuals in a single room or engaging in an outdoor activity as prescribed by the Phase Guidance provided by DC Health and the Mayor's office. This means a maximum of 11 students and one instructor in any one space. An additional instructor will be permitted in that space for a very brief time. During all phases, the school will limit non-essential visitors to the building unless in cases of emergency.
	Travelling to and From School
	Students, families, and staff will be instructed to be aware of safety considerations during their travel to and from
	school, including walking within the community, using public transportation, individual cars, shared cars, and
	school-provided transportation services.

#### Walkers

- Students, families, and staff who walk to school will be instructed to wear masks and practice measures for minimizing exposure on their commute with the following tactics where possible:
  - o Maintain six feet of distance between others on the sidewalk as much as possible, avoiding congested routes if an alternative route is reasonable and safe.
  - Stand back from gathering points such as intersections, where reasonable and safe, to avoid congregating in large groups.
  - o Avoid touching unnecessary surfaces and objects.
  - o When surfaces and objects are touched, such as crosswalk buttons, use hand sanitizer with at least the recommended percent alcohol.

#### Riding Public Transportation

- Students, families, and staff who rely on public transportation to get to school will be instructed to wear masks and take proactive measures for minimizing exposure on their commute with the following tactics where possible:
  - o Maintain six feet of distance between others on the sidewalk and train platforms, avoiding most congested routes if reasonable and safe.
  - o Stand back from gathering points such as intersections to avoid congregating in large groups.
  - o Familiarize and stay current with DC Metro Services system procedures for safety of passengers.
  - o Avoid touching unnecessary surfaces and objects.
  - When surfaces and objects are touched use hand sanitizer with at least the recommended percent alcohol.
  - o Use hand sanitizer after leaving the transit system.
  - o For the remaining distance, students will be instructed to follow the above regarding walking to school.

#### Car Riders

- Students, families, and staff who are dropped off at school or who drive personal vehicles to school, will be
  instructed to wear masks upon exiting their vehicle while they are on the school grounds, as well as, to take
  proactive measures for minimizing exposure when not in their vehicle. following tactics are recommended
  where possible:
  - o Maintain six feet of distance between others on the sidewalk as they walk up to the school building.
  - Use hand sanitizer with recommended percent alcohol after leaving the vehicle and before entering the vehicle.

### **Entering and Exiting the Building**

All students, families, and staff will be provided instructions for entering and exiting the school.

- Access to the school building will be limited to two designated entrances; the Multipurpose room and the
  gymnasium. Two infrared high-volume temperature readers will be installed at these main entrances with the
  capability of scanning, recording and identifying any individual with a reading or 100.4 (or guidelines set by the
  CDC).
- Security personnel will monitor all entrances to ensure that only designated entrances are used to access the building, ensuring that ALL person's temperature is checked before proceeding into the building.
- Staggered arrival and dismissal times implemented to reduce peak student traffic in and out of the building.
  - o Staggered arrival according to surname of parent/guardian on the registration documents
    - 8:00am-8:30am----Group 1---Surnames A-M
    - 8:30am-9:00am----Group 2 ---Surnames N-Z
    - PreK-3 and PreK-4 students will arrive at 9:00am. Exceptions will be made for siblings to arrive together at any of the staggered arrival time slots, most convenient for the parent.
    - Pre-K 3 group will enter via the multi-purpose room, Pre-K 4 group via the gym entrance. TA's will await students and escort them to their classrooms.
  - Staggered Dismissal
  - o Staggered dismissal according to surname of parent/guardian on the registration (same as arrival groups)
    - 2:00pm-2:30pm----Group 1--- Surnames A-M
    - 2:30pm-3:00pm----Group 2 ---Surnames N-Z
- Assigned staff members will be stationed at entry ways to conduct health screening of all students prior to entering the infrared temperature scanning zone.
- Staff members will complete health screenings forms at each clock-in machine, prior to clocking in for their tour of duty.
- Health screening checkpoints will be established, and screening questions posted on charts for quick, smooth checks and transition into the building.
- Mark directional lines and six-foot separation standing spots on the exterior pavement.
- Evaluate safety of outdoor line related to safety and security threats (e.g., behavioral issues, traffic).
- Individuals may exit the building from any of the numerous exits, identified by illuminated exit signs.

# **Daily Health Screening**

Students, families, and staff are advised to check their own temperatures prior to arriving at school each day. However, all staff, students and parents (entering only when absolutely necessary), will enter through the infrared scanning zones.

- A Health Screen occurs for all people entering the school. The screener will be updated per guidance from DC Health. The following questions will be **ASKED**;
  - o Have you felt like you had a fever in the past day?
  - o Do you have a new or worsening cough today?
  - Do you have any of these symptoms today?
    - Shortness of Breath or difficulty breathing
    - Fatigue
    - Muscle or Body aches
    - Headache
    - New loss of taste or smell
    - Sore throat
    - Congestion or runny nose
    - Nausea or vomiting
    - Diarrhea
- Students, parents and staff will be ASKED;
  - Have you been exposed to/come in close contact with someone who has COVID-19?
- School staff will LOOK, visually inspect each student, and staff member for signs of illness which could include
  flushed cheeks, rapid breathing or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue or extreme
  fussiness.
- Any individual meeting a "Yes" for any of the above criteria, **ASK, ASK, LOOK,** screening, will not be allowed entry into the school and will be instructed to call their health care provider for next steps.

Once students are in school, temperature checks will be conducted using contact-less thermometers if a student or staff is exhibiting symptoms of feeling ill. The nurse or any other staff conducting temperature checks, will be provided with the necessary gloves, masks, face shield and coverall, as a protective measure. The following guidelines will be adhered to:

- Make a visual inspection of the individual for signs of illness as outlined in the screening steps
- Put on disposable gloves
- Wear face shield and mask, or mask only.
- Stand behind a physical barrier/partition and reach around the partition to check temperature
- Check the temperature, by scanning across the forehead.

- Summon for the nurse and the removal of the individual to the holding area, if temperature reads 100.4.
- Remove your gloves following proper procedures.
- Dispose of gloves or wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Health care personnel contacts parent or guardian immediately for picking up the student.
- Clean thermometer before and after each use using an alcohol wipe between use.

### Non-Medical Face Coverings

All school staff and visitors must wear cloth masks (and face shields if so desired) at all times when in the building, when outside of the building and when in proximity to students and families. LEA A will provide all employees with a number of cloth masks and face shield. If an adult has a medical condition that prevents them from wearing a face covering, they will not be permitted to participate in in-person school activities.

Students and families must wear cloth face coverings during arrival, dismissal, and at all times while on the school grounds or in the school building.

Students will be highly encouraged to wear a face mask covering at all times but in particular, when social distancing is difficult, when in the hallways, bathrooms, or other communal spaces within the facility. LEA A will provide all students with one washable mask at the start of the school year.

While visitors to the school will be strictly limited, should a visitor need to enter they must wear a face covering on the school grounds and inside the school buildings at all times. Visitors will be allowed in the building on an extremely limited basis. Emergency masks will be provided in cases where the visitor does not have a mask and has a legitimate or urgent need to access the building.

*Instances when face coverings do not need to be worn:* 

- By anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone unconscious or unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- By children during naptime.
- By students or staff engaged in activities in which there is the risk of burn or injury by the use of the face covering.
- When participating in physical activity (e.g., recess) outdoors if social distancing of at least 6 feet is feasible. When outdoors but *not* participating in physical activity, face coverings will be worn;

• Staff may wear face coverings with clear plastic windows, or briefly remove their face coverings, when interacting with students with disabilities identified as having hearing or vision impairments, who require clear speech or lip-reading to access instruction.

Ensuring the safe use of clean cloth face coverings:

- Students and staff will bring multiple cloth face coverings with them. In the event that a student, staff, or guest does not have a face covering, one will be provided by the school.
- Staff and students will exercise caution when removing the covering, always storing it out of reach of other students, and wash hands immediately after removing it.
- Students will be provided with clear resealable bags for storing mask if and when it is removed.
- If a student or staff member tampers with the face covering of another student or staff member, it should be removed immediately and replaced with a clean one. The student and staff member must immediately wash hands or use hand sanitizer

#### Hygiene

The school will prioritize personal (hand) and school-wide hygiene practices that prevent and contain the spread of disease, including COVID-19.

# Hand Hygiene

The school will reinforce frequent and proper handwashing strategies for staff and students. Strategies will include;

- Washing with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds, when possible.
- Using an alcohol base (60 percent alcohol) hand sanitizer when not possible to wash with water and soap
- Cleansing hands before eating, after eating, after using the bathroom, after sneezing, coughing or blowing nose.
- Before entering and after exiting a classroom
- Between activities

## School-wide Hygiene:

- The School will work with the janitorial/custodial services provider to ensure that the following will occur to maintain a healthy environment.
- Health Screen materials are properly cleaned and secured.
- Adequate supplies (e.g., soap, paper towels, hand sanitizer, tissue) are readily available in every bathroom and classroom throughout the day.
- All students will be provided with their own materials in labeled bags or bins.

- All student belongings will be separated and stored in designated areas (e.g. locker, cubby, bin).
- Electronic devices (e.g. computers, smartphones, Chromebook) will be assigned to an individual student for their use only. In the event that a student may need to borrow one (e.g. IT issue, forgot), the school will provide recently sanitized equipment.
- Staff and students are encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- No-touch hand-sanitizer dispensers will be installed in multipurpose room, along hallways, in classrooms, lobby and gymnasium.
- Touchless trash cans in all classrooms and along the hallways.
- Drinking fountains will not be used other than to refill individual bottles.
- Regular hand sanitizing will be enforced:
  - o "You touch it, you take it" policy will be enforced in classrooms

### Preventing a Vaccine-avoidable Outbreak

Preventing the spread of COVID-19 is the priority of all. However, according to the CDC data, the pandemic has reduced the administration of childhood immunization. That being said, it is imperative that all students are fully vaccinated according to the CDC and DC Health Guidelines, prior to attending in-person activities at school. LEA A will do the following;

- Implement the immunization policy for In-Person attendance in full
- Ensure a procedure is in place for frequently reviewing immunization compliance and notifying non-compliant families.
- Removing non-compliant students from i-person instruction after a 20-day grace period.

As a part of the student enrollment process, the enrollment team/registrar will confirm that all student vaccinations are up to date prior to fully enrolling a student. If it is determined that a student has been unable to get vaccines, the enrollment team will coordinate with the student support team and school nurse to support the student in getting an up-to-date screening.

# **In School Dining**

Students will eat meals in the classroom to avoid mixing in the cafeteria. Meal distribution, eating, and waste collection will occur with six feet separation coordinated with one-way traffic arrows and queue lines marked on the floor of the classroom where possible. Additionally,

- Students will wash hands before and after eating, and may not share food, utensils, cups, or plates.
- Staff will wash hands before and after preparing food, and after helping children to eat.

• Tables and chairs will be cleaned and sanitized before and after the meal, by either the teachers, Assistants or other school personnel as assigned.

Students who have noted food allergies will be removed from the classroom when necessary and provided with a secure eating space in the multipurpose room, which is extremely large and facilitates no contact. The following measures will be implemented;

- Individual seating arrangement provided.
- Disinfected before and after student has dined.
- Protective shield around the desk as the student dines.
- Immediately washing of the hands, replacing mask and return to classroom.
- The classroom of any student with a food allergy, would be cleaned and sanitized after breakfast, lunch or snack has been eaten in the space, and prior to the student who suffers from the allergy in question, rejoins the class.

#### Meal Preparation, Service and Cleaning Plan

Chefs and servers will observe proper safety and hygiene practices throughout the preparation and delivery of breakfast, lunch, snacks and supper

- All meals will be pre-packaged per individual.
- Employees will be screened for temperature reading and each will complete the questionnaire before being allowed in the building.
- Face masks and face shields will be worn at all times.
- Gloves will be worn for the duration of the work hours
- All surfaces, trays, contains and distribution bags will be sanitized before use, after use and in between use.
- Bags will be assigned to each cohort and will not be used outside of that cohort.
- All utensils will be disposables.
- Maximum distancing will be observed between workers while food preparation is in process.
- All unnecessary personnel would be prohibited from accessing the kitchen area, and only essential staff admitted.
- The kitchen will be cleaned before, after and between each meal type preparation.
- Upon delivery of food bags to classrooms, the service person will refrain from entering the classroom, to avoid contact or exposure within the different groups of students. Closed bags will be placed on desks outside each classroom door.
- Empty bags will be retrieved from the desk outside each classroom door.

### Recess/Breaks

The school will continue to hold recess and/or outside playtime and will maintain physical distance of 6 feet between students outside, including staggering groups and dividing space outside as needed.

Classrooms will be provided with their own activity bags (balls, ropes, hoops etc.) to be used during outdoor activities and recess blocks, limiting the use of shared equipment.

### Groupings

The school will take measures in its scheduling and planning to achieve the following grouping practices:

- The school will group students and staff as a cohort. Cohorts will remain together throughout the day, eliminating all opportunities to cross or mix groups. All services will be provided to student cohorts.
- The school will not host any group activities or large gatherings of students, such as assemblies and indoor physical education classes when six feet of distance is not possible.
- All staff meetings, Professional Learning Communities and Professional Development sessions will be facilitated virtually.
- For activities where students traditionally transition between groups, LEA A will rotate teachers between classrooms, rather than students.
- The school will correlate classroom groups with entry and exit points as well as coordinate use of hallways, restrooms, playgrounds (as applicable), and other shared spaces to avoid mixing groups.

### High Risk Individuals

Students and staff at high-risk for contracting or experiencing severe illness due to COVID-19 must be cleared by their medical provider before participating in on-site activities. Prior to beginning on-site activities, all staff and students in this category will be provided with a communication that provides the the guidance below for returning to school.

Based on DC Department of Health guidance, we recommend that high risk individuals consult with their medical provider before attending in person activities. Following their consultation with their medical provider staff and families must provide that written notification from their medical provider to Human Resources, clearing them to attend in-person instruction.

- Moderate to Severe Asthma
- Serious heart conditions
- Cancer
- COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)
- Immunocompromised conditions

- Severe obesity (>40 Body Mass Index)
- Diabetes
- Chronic kidney disease
- Liver Disease
- Sickle Cell disease
- Any student or staff member who has a medical condition not on this list, but is still concerned about their safety

Guidelines above will be communicated to all stakeholders prior to in-person model, using the following methods;

- Shared during parent meetings (Orientations) to be held prior to returning to on-site learning cohorts
- Guidelines will be included in our Parent Student Handbook which is provided to all families.
- Health personnel will reach out to students who have on file, notifications of any of the above listed illnesses, to share the guidelines with them.

### Cancelling, Eliminating Activities

The school will cancel, eliminate, or modify the program to adhere to the following:

- Cancel or modify classes where students are likely to be in very close proximity
- Cancel activities and events such as field trips, student assemblies, sports events, special performances, and school-wide parent meetings.
- Eliminate non-essential travel for staff and teachers (e.g., conferences, off site Professional Developments).
- Revise the process for receiving mail and packages; only have necessary delivered and combine orders so fewer deliveries are made.
- Limit non-essential visitors (e.g., prohibit outside visitors from entering the school unless their presence was requested or if they received permission to enter the school).
- Stagger activities' times or locations by cohort to maximum extent feasible.

# **Exclusion or Dismissal from On-site Learning**

The School will adhere to the following exclusion and dismissal criteria:

#### **Exclusion Criteria:**

Students and staff must stay home, or not be admitted if:

- The student or staff member has had a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher or any of the symptoms listed in the Daily Health Screening.
- The student, staff member or any close contact is confirmed to have COVID-19

- The student or staff is awaiting COVID-19 test results.
- The student, staff member or visitor has traveled to a high-risk state or country, as defined by DC Health, for non-essential activities within the prior 14 days.

Students or staff with pre-existing health conditions that present with specific COVID-19 – like symptoms will not be excluded from entering the school building on the basis of those specific symptoms providing that their healthcare provider has provided written or verbal documentation that those specific symptoms are determined to not be due to COVID-19.

• If excluded, students/parents/guardians, staff and visitors should call their healthcare provider for further directions.

#### Dismissal Criteria:

If a student or staff member develops a fever or other signs of illness, the school must follow the above exclusion criteria regarding the exclusion and dismissal of students and staff.

- For students, the school will immediately isolate the student from other students, notify the student's parent/guardian of the symptoms and that the student needs to be picked up as soon as possible, instruct them to seek healthcare guidance and immediately follow cleaning and disinfecting procedures for any area and materials with which the student was in contact.
- For staff, the school will send the staff member home immediately or isolate until it is safe to go home and seek healthcare guidance. The school will immediately follow cleaning and disinfecting procedures for any area, materials, and equipment with which the staff member was in contact.

#### Return Criteria:

LEA A will adhere to the guidelines as governed by OSSE and the CDC, regarding safe return to school, applicable to staff and students.

## Symptomatic or Confirmed to have COVID-19

If a student or staff member reports any of the above symptoms, or is confirmed to have COVID-19, the student or staff must not return to school until;

- They complete the appropriate isolation period;
  - 24 hours after the fever has resolved without the use of fever reducing medication (Motrin, Tylenol) and respiratory symptoms have improved AND
  - o At least 10 days after symptoms first appeared, whichever is later, OR
- They have a negative COVID-19 test, and meet standard criteria to return to school after an illness, OR

• They have been cleared to return per their healthcare provider (i.e. alternate diagnosis) or DC health care instructions.

#### Isolation Room:

LEA A will establish an isolation room in an area of the school where there will be limited use of the space within that area, by students, families or staff. It has an independent entrance/exit. While in isolation, the individual will be monitored by heath personnel, while maintaining social distancing, and will continue to wear a face covering. The nurse supervising the isolation room, will wear a face covering and shield, gloves and a coverall. Once the student has been removed from the isolation room, the nurse will remove and safely store mask and coverall, and discard gloves safely.

Disinfecting and sanitizing protocols would be followed to clean the room.

### **COVID-19 Symptoms**

If a student or staff member reports any of these symptoms; fever, cough, difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell etc.

- Recommend the individual to seek healthcare guidance to determine if COVID-19 testing is indicated.
- If symptomatic; individual may return after 24 hours after fever has resolved without the use of fever reducing medication and respiratory symptoms have improved and, at least 10 days after symptoms first speared (whichever is later).
- If asymptomatic; individual may return after 10 days from positive test
- If individual is tested positive; follow guidelines below for a positive test result
- If individual is tested negative; follow guidelines below for a negative test result
- Individuals must remain in quarantine while awaiting test results

If the staff or student does not complete a test, the staff or student must:

- Submit documentation from a healthcare provider of an alternate diagnosis, and meet standard criteria to return after illness; OR
- Meet symptom-based criteria to return:
  - At least 24 hours after the fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication (e.g., Motrin, Tylenol) and respiratory symptoms have improved; AND
  - $\circ\quad$  At least 10 days from symptoms first appeared, whichever is later

Positive COVID-19 Test Results

In the event of a positive COVID-19 case in the school community, the school will control spread by implementing the following measures;

- Disinfecting all exposed areas and materials.
- Restrict personnel from entering the contaminated area.
- Ensure that any individuals who must enter the area are wearing gloves, masks and other PPE covering as deemed necessary.
- The contracted cleaning vendor will be contacted immediately to be on site for deep cleaning.

If a student or staff is confirmed to have COVID-19, LEA A will adhere to the following guidelines; If symptomatic, the individual may return after:

- At least 24 hours **after** the fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication (e.g., Motrin, Tylenol) and respiratory symptoms have improved; AND
- At least 10 days\* after symptoms first appeared, whichever is later

If asymptomatic, may return after:

• 10 days from positive test

\*In either case, close contacts (including all members of the household) must quarantine for 14 days from the last date of close contact with the positive individual.

Negative COVID-19 Test Results after Symptoms

The student or staff may return when;

- They have met the criteria for return to school after illness
- Documentation from service provider indicating an alternate diagnosis e.g. chronic health conditions, alternate acute diagnosis such as strep throat.

Close Contact of Individual with Confirmed COVID-19

If a staff or student has been confirmed to have been in close contact with someone confirmed with COVID-19, the staff or student;

- May return after 14 days from last exposure to the positive COVID-19 individual or as instructed by DC Health. This is dependent on if the staff or student was in isolation/quarantine for the 14 days period.
- If unable to isolate from the COVID-19 individual, the staff or student may return to school after quarantine of 14 days from the end of the COVID-19 positive individual's infectious period (defined by 24 hours after the

<sup>\*</sup>This will have considered on a case basis as some individuals, including those with severe illness, may have longer quarantine periods per DC Health or their healthcare provider.

fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication (e.g., Motrin, Tylenol) and respiratory symptoms have improved; AND at least 10 days from symptoms first appeared, whichever is later).

### Travel to High-Risk State or Country (as defined by DC Health)

If a staff or student has been confirmed to have traveled to a high-risk state or country, the staff or student;

• May return after 14 days from return or arrival to the district of Columbia

#### Awaiting a COVID-19 Test Result

If any student or staff member is awaiting a COVID-19 test result, then the student or staff member must not enter the facility until they test negative and meet standard criteria to return to school after an illness. If the student or staff member tests positive, then they should immediately begin a self- quarantine and seek further guidance from their healthcare provider or DC Health.

### Exposure Reporting, Notification, and Disinfecting

To ensure a clear and efficient process for communication, the school has identified the school nurse as the internal COVID-19 point of contact (POC). This person is responsible for ensuring the below steps are followed in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19. She will also act as the point of contact for families and staff to notify if a child or staff member test positive for COVID-19.

### Step 1: Report to DC Health Department

In the event the school identifies a student or a staff member who has tested COVID-19 positive, the nurse will notify DC Health (DC Health guidelines) by emailing coronavirus@dc.gov with the following information;

- "COVID-19 Consult" in the email subject line
- Name and direct phone number of the point of contact for DC Health to return the call
- · Short summary of the incident or situation

## Step 2: Communication to Families and Staff

The school's communication protocols that protect the privacy of individuals and alert their families and staff to a COVID-19 case, will be enacted. Communication will include:

- Notification to all staff and families in the event of change of school schedule,
- Notification to those staff and families of students in close contact with the individual and will state the requirement to quarantine for 14 days; and

- Notification to the all stakeholders that there was a COVID-19 positive case and that hose impacted have been told to quarantine, and all areas that the individual was in contact with will be cleaned, sanitized, and disinfected.
- Notification to parents will be made through robo calls, mass emails and group texts messages to the school and parent body. Information will also be posted on the school's website.

### Step 3: Cleaning, Sanitization, and Disinfection of Affected Spaces

In the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case of a student or staff member, the school will follow all steps outlined by DC Health and CDC guidelines for cleaning, disinfecting and sanitizing.

- If seven days or fewer have passed since the person who is sick used the facility, the school will follow these steps:
  - o Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
  - o Open outside doors to increase air circulation in the areas, when possible.
  - Wait up to 24 hours or as long as possible before cleaning or disinfecting to allow respiratory droplets to settle.
  - Clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as classrooms, bathrooms, and common areas.

If more than seven days have passed since the person who is sick used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary. The school will continue routine cleaning and disinfecting.

### **Distribution of Education Materials**

All materials will be sanitized prior to assigning to a student for the duration of its use. For students learning remotely, the materials will be available to the student during designated times throughout a number of school days. For students who are unable to travel to school or are learning in a virtual cohort, the materials will be available for pick up by parents. In cases where a parent is unable to pick up the packages, they will be dropped off at the student's residence. The student and family will sign an agreement to take care of the materials and follow school behavior policy. The same process will be repeated for checking in materials.

Instructional materials will be packaged into individual bags and bins, labeled and stored within the seating area of each student, eliminating the need to share any material.

# Items provided to each student

- All classes: pencils, crayons, erasers, sharpeners, rulers (2<sup>nd</sup>& 3<sup>rd</sup>), composition book, text books and workbooks.
- Students as needed—hotspots, iPads or chrome books

- Leveled books for independent reading
- Art: colored pencils, paper, crayons, scissors

#### Oversight of Before-care and Aftercare Activities

LEA A's Before and Aftercare program will adhere to the same operational expectations and safety protocols implemented for the regular instructional day. These guidelines are aligned to the released Health and Safety Guidance for Child Care Providers. Program supervisor will ensure that updated contact information is on file for all students and will develop a communication plan to easily access parents or provide them with updated information.

In addition, one staff member will be tasked as the point of contact to maintain communication with parents and to whom parents will provide information regarding exposure or risks.

### **Activity Groups**

- For indoor classes or activities, no more than 12 individuals (staff and students) clustered in one group, and no more than one group per room. One additional staff member (13 total individuals) can briefly be added to the group if necessary. Activity groups will form cohorts to avoid mixing groups.
- For outdoor activities, each group of 12 (or, briefly, 13) individuals must interact only with their own group and not mix between other groups. Each group must have extra physical (social) distance (more than 6 feet) between them and the next group.
- Cohorts will be a similar as possible, to the cohort students are assigned to, during the instructional day,
- Social distancing will be adhered to; six feet apart from each other when in the classrooms and during outside
  activities.
- There will be no interaction of students and sharing of materials and resources. The same students and staff will be grouped together each day.

# Health Screening

- LEA A's staff will conduct a Daily Health Check for the child(ren) attending the before-care program and all staff upon arrival each day. The screening protocols listed above will be the same for arrival and acceptance into the Before-care program.
- All staff and students will enter via the temperature scanning entrances.

# Wearing of Masks

It is required that all LEA A's Before and After school staff wear cloth facial coverings while interacting with colleagues and students, while inside the school buildings or outside on the school grounds.
 During drop-off and pick-up, all adults must ensure they are wearing cloth facial coverings. Failure to do so will result in refusal into the school's buildings.
 Cloth facial coverings for students are highly recommended. The same protocols will be adhered to as existing

# Hygiene

All LEA A's students, staff, and contracted service providers will adhere to regular hand sanitizing routines;

- Upon arrival in the building
- After staff breaks
- Before and after serving meals
- Before and after eating or handling any food items.
- Before and after administering medication

throughout the regular school day.

- After using bathroom
- Before and after touching, putting on or removing face coverings
- After touching of the face, blowing nose, coughing or sneezing
- After playing outdoors
- After playing with sand and sensory play
- After handling garbage and other disposable materials
- After cleaning
- Before entering a classroom or after exiting a classroom
- Between activities
- Before and after handling student's personal belongings
- Before and after laying out or re-stocking cots
- Before and after handling learning materials and manipulative

# Cleaning, Disinfecting and Sanitizing

The same protocols established for the regular school day, will be in effect for the Before and Aftercare programs.

## Traveling to and from LEA B during Blended Learning

Students, families, and staff will be instructed to be aware of safety considerations during their travel to and from school, including using public transportation, individual cars, shared cars, and school-provided transportation services.

LEA B

Families arrive at school at the time outlined below (by their last name).

#### Arrival

Parents and guardians will enter campus through the west gate and walk behind the building on the asphalt and drop off their children in the zone where their class will meet. Parents continue to walk in one direction around the building and exit through the east gate.

#### Dismissal

Dismissal at LEA B will work similarly to arrival. Students will be waiting in their designated zone for their parent / guardian. Parents or guardians will arrive through the west gate, walk behind the building, and pick up their children from their zone. Families will leave through the east gate.

LEA B will have stagger start and end times for school to avoid students and families arriving on campus at once:

Last name of oldest or only student	Arrival Time	Arrival Location	Dismissal Time	Dismissal Location
A - M	8:15 - 8: 45 a.m.	By grade outside in the designated zone	3:30 - 3: 45 p.m.	By grade outside in the designated zone
N - Z	8:45 - 9:15 a.m.	By grade outside in the designated zone	3:45- 4:00 p.m.	By grade outside in the designated zone

## Walking to LEA B

Students, families, and staff who walk to LEA B's campus will be instructed to wear masks and practice measures for minimizing exposure on their commute with the following tactics where possible:

- Maintain six feet of distance between others on the sidewalk as much as possible avoiding most congested routes if an alternative route is reasonable and safe.
- Stand back from gathering points such as intersections, where reasonable and safe, to avoid congregating in large groups.
- Avoid touching unnecessary surfaces and objects.
- When surfaces and objects are touched, such as crosswalk buttons, use hand sanitizer with at least the recommended percent alcohol.

### Taking Public Transportation to and from LEA B

Students, families, and staff who rely on public transportation to get to school will be instructed to wear masks and take proactive measures for minimizing exposure on their commute with the following tactics where possible:

- Maintain six feet of distance between others on the sidewalk and train platforms avoiding most congested routes if reasonable and safe.
- Stand back from gathering points such as intersections to avoid congregating in large groups.
- Familiarize and stay current with transit system procedures for safety of passengers. Keep up-to-date on <u>DC</u> Metro services.
- Avoid touching unnecessary surfaces and objects.
- When surfaces and objects are touched use hand sanitizer with at least the recommended percent alcohol.
- Use hand sanitizer after leaving the transit system.
- For the remaining distance, students will be instructed to follow the above regarding walking to school.

### Driving to and from LEA B

Students, families, and staff who are dropped off at school or who drive will be instructed to wear masks upon exiting the vehicle and to take proactive measures for minimizing exposure on their commute with the following tactics where possible:

- Maintain six feet of distance between others on the sidewalk as they walk up to the school building.
- Use hand sanitizer with recommended percent alcohol after leaving the vehicle.

LEA B's carpool lane and nature center drop off lane will not be open as we bring students back on campus in small group cohorts. Parents will need to park in the neighborhood and walk their children to campus.

## Parent Organized Buses

For the health and safety of students, LEA B recommends that parents do not use buses to get their children to and from school. The carpool lane will not be open to buses, and LEA B staff will not be available to provide assistance to parent organized buses.

# Entering and Exiting LEA B's Campus

All students, families, and staff will be provided instructions for entering and exiting the school. Here is what LEA B will do to further develop its plan for how to enter and exit campus:

- We will consult students, families, and staff on the details of the plan.
- LEA B will stagger arrival and dismissal times to reduce peak student traffic in and out.

- Before arriving to school, families will complete a health screening log for each LEA B student every day. This information will be collected in an App.
- We will mark direction lines and six-foot separation standing spots on the exterior pavement and post procedures for health screening checkpoint ahead.
- We will evaluate shelter accommodations to protect students in line from the elements (e.g., sun and rain).
- Also, we will evaluate safety of outdoor lines related to safety and security threats (e.g., behavioral issues, traffic).
- We will Identify entry and exit points that avoid cross traffic at building access points, if possible.

### **Daily Health Screenings**

Students, families, and staff will be asked health screening questions and complete temperature checks each day prior to entering.

In the event a staff member must take a student's temperature, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends several procedures to do so safely. During temperature checks, use of barriers or personal protective equipment (PPE) helps to eliminate or minimize exposures due to close contact with a person who has symptoms. Use of non-contact thermometers is encouraged. See Hygiene section for thermometer cleaning.

PPE can be used if a temperature check cannot be performed by a parent/guardian or barrier/partition controls cannot be implemented. CDC states that reliance on PPE is less effective and more difficult to implement because of PPE shortages and training requirements. If staff do not have experience in using PPE, the CDC has recommended sequences for donning and doffing PPE. To follow this option staff should:

- Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Put on PPE. This includes a face mask, eye protection (goggles or disposable face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face), and a single pair of disposable gloves. A gown should be considered if extensive contact with the individual being screened is anticipated.
- Take the individual's temperature.
- Remove and discard PPE.
- Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Clean the thermometer following the directions below.

#### **Small Group Cohorts**

LEA B has taken measures in its scheduling and planning to achieve the following grouping practices:

- The school will group students and staff together each day (as opposed to mixing groups of teachers and students, where possible).
- The school will not host any group activities or large gatherings of students, such as assemblies and indoor physical education classes when six feet of distance is not possible.
- The school will correlate classroom groups with entry and exit points as well as coordinate use of hallways, restrooms, playgrounds (as applicable), and other shared spaces to avoid mixing groups.

#### Student Meals

For its student meals, LEA B will use pre-packaged lunches, including plasticware, napkins, and seasonings, or serve meals individually plated.

- LEA B's student meals team will prepare meals to be served in the classrooms.
- Identified staff members will collect meals and distribute to designated classrooms. LEA B will strive to keep the employees delivering to selected classrooms each day.
- Students will eat meals in the classroom to avoid mixing in the cafeteria. Meal distribution, eating, and waste collection will occur with six feet separation coordinated with one-way traffic arrows and queue lines marked on the floor of the classroom where possible. Additionally,
- Students will wash hands before and after eating, and may not share food, utensils, cups, or plates.
- Staff will wash hands before and after preparing food, and after helping children to eat.
- Students will sit in their assigned learning space while eating their meals. After the meals, students and teachers will wipe down desks.

### **Recess and Breaks**

LEA B will maximize the amount of time students and staff are outside. Additionally, LEA B will continue to hold recess and/or outside playtime, and will maintain physical distance between students outside, including staggering groups and dividing space outside as needed. We will schedule outdoor activities and learning within the master calendar.

Additionally, LEA B teachers will get needed breaks throughout the day when they teach on campus.

# Postponing, Canceling or Eliminating On-Campus Activities

LEA B will cancel, eliminate, or modify some of our on-campus activities:

- Cancel or modify classes where students are likely to be in very close proximity.
- Cancel activities and events such as field trips, student assemblies, athletic events or practices, special performances, and school-wide in person parent meetings.
- Eliminate non-essential travel for staff and teachers (e.g., conferences).
- Revise the process for receiving mail and packages; only have necessary delivered and combine orders so
  fewer deliveries are made.
- Limit non-essential visitors (e.g., prohibit outside visitors from entering the school unless their presence was requested or if they received permission to enter the school).
- Stagger activities' times or locations by cohort to maximum extent feasible.

#### **Immunizations & Enrollment**

Maintaining student health is our top priority. The COVID-19 pandemic has emphasized the importance of protecting children against contagious diseases. Now, more than ever, families should make appointments and receive their necessary immunizations and flu shots.

As a part of the student enrollment process, the enrollment team/registrar will confirm that all student vaccinations are up to date. If it is determined that a student has been unable to get vaccines, the Director of Enrollment will coordinate with the student support team and school nurse (if assigned) to support the student in getting an up-to-date screening. Parents can email completed medical and dental forms and immunization records to the LEA. Click here for immunization requirements by age.

### **Face Coverings**

All LEA B staff, contractors, adult visitors, and other personnel will wear face coverings at all times when in the building, and when outside of the building when in close proximity to students and families. If an adult has a medical condition that prevents them from wearing a face covering, they must have documentation on file from a medical provider that they are not able to do so. We will work with all staff during onboarding to ensure that accommodations are met. Otherwise that individual should not participate in in-person school activities.

Students are required to wear cloth face coverings during arrival, dismissal, and at all times while moving around the school building. Students under the age of 2 will not be required to wear a face covering. Older children, adolescents and adult students will be required to wear face covering when in the hallways, bathrooms, or other communal spaces within the facility.

Instances when face coverings need to be worn:

- Students should wear face coverings as feasible, and most importantly when physical distancing is difficult (e.g., hallways, restrooms) and on their travel to and from the school if using public transportation.
- While visitors to the school should be strictly limited, should a visitor need to enter they should wear a face covering on the school grounds and inside the school buildings at all times.

Instances when face coverings do not need to be worn:

- Outdoors when social distancing of at least six feet is strictly enforced.
- By anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone unconscious or unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- By children during naptime.

Ensuring the safe use of clean cloth face coverings:

- Students and staff will bring multiple cloth face coverings with them to school. In the event that a student, staff, or guest does not have a face covering, one will be provided by LEA B.
- Staff and students will exercise caution when removing the covering, always storing it out of reach of other students, and wash hands immediately after removing it.
- If a student or staff member tampers with the face covering of another student or staff member, it should be removed immediately and replaced with a clean one.

#### Hygiene

LEA B will prioritize personal (hand) and school-wide hygiene practices that prevent and contain the spread of disease, including COVID-19.

School-wide Hygiene: LEA B will work with our staff and the janitorial/custodial services provider to ensure that the following environment will occur to maintain a healthy environment.

- A Health Screen occurs for all people entering the school.
- Health Screen materials are properly cleaned.
- Adequate supplies (e.g., soap, paper towels, hand sanitizer, tissue) are readily available in every bathroom and classroom throughout the day.
- All students will be provided with their own materials in designated and labeled bags or bins.
- All student belongings will be separated and stored in designated areas (e.g. locker, cubby, bin).
- Electronic devices (e.g. computers, smartphones, Chromebook) will be assigned to an individual. In the event that a student may need to borrow one (e.g. IT issue, forgot), the school will provide recently sanitized equipment.

- Increase air circulation only where safe and possible and ensure ventilation systems are operating properly.
- Encourage staff and students to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Install no-touch fixtures where possible (e.g., automatic faucets and toilets, touchless foot door openers, touchless trash cans, touchless hand sanitizer dispensers).
- Drinking fountains will not be used other than to refill individual bottles. LEA B has 2 bottle filling stations on the 4th and 3rd floors. Additionally, all the classroom sinks on the 1st and 2nd floors have water bottle filling faucets with filtered water.
- Regular hand sanitizing will be enforced:
- Ensure handwashing strategies include washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least the recommended percent alcohol. (NOT METHANOL)
- Make hand cleaning supplies readily available in classrooms, bathrooms, and offices. Set up sanitizing stations outside of large common spaces including the MPR, playgrounds or outdoor spaces, and entrances/exits.
- Students will wash or sanitize their hands when both entering and exiting a classroom or between activities. All classrooms have touchless hand sanitizer dispensers located just outside the room.
- Students will walk across shoe disinfecting mats before entering the classroom. All classrooms will have shoe disinfectant mats located just outside the classroom door.
- Enforce a "you touch it, you take it" policy in classrooms and the lunchroom.

## High-Risk Individuals

Students and staff at high-risk for contracting or experiencing severe illness due to COVID-19 will be cleared by their medical provider before participating in on-site activities. Consideration will also be made for live-in family members of students or staff at high-risk. Risk factors include:

- Chronic Lung Disease
- Moderate to Severe Asthma
- Serious heart conditions
- Immunocompromised conditions
- Severe obesity (>40 Body Mass Index)
- Diabetes
- Chronic kidney disease, and/or
- Liver Disease
- People 65 years and older

• Any child, parent, or staff member who has a medical condition not on this list, but is still concerned about their safety

## Exclusion or Dismissal from On-Campus Learning

LEA B will adhere to the following exclusion and dismissal criteria:

Exclusion Criteria: Students and staff must stay home, or not be admitted if:

- The student or staff member has had a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher,
- Any member of their household is confirmed to have COVID-19, or
- Any member of their household is awaiting COVID-19 test results.

If a student or staff member reports any of the above symptoms or exposure, or is confirmed to have COVID-19, the student or staff member must not return to school until:

- 72 hours after the fever has resolved without the use of fever-reducing medication (e.g. Motrin, Tylenol) and respiratory symptoms have improved; AND
- at least 10 days after symptoms first appeared, whichever is later; OR
- per their healthcare provider following DC health instructions.

If any student or staff member has been in close contact with a person who is positive for COVID-19, then the student or staff member must not enter the facility until cleared by their healthcare provider or has completed their quarantine period without becoming symptomatic or diagnosed with COVID-19.

If any student or staff member has been in close contact with a person who is awaiting a COVID-19 test result, then the student or staff member must not enter the facility until the close contact tests negative. If the close contact tests positive, then they should seek guidance from their healthcare provider or DC Health.

Dismissal Criteria: If a student or staff member develops a fever or other signs of illness, the school must follow the above exclusion criteria regarding the exclusion and dismissal of students and staff.

- For students, the school is to immediately isolate the student from other students, notify the student's parent/guardian of the symptoms and that the student needs to be picked up as soon as possible, and immediately follow cleaning and disinfecting procedures for any area and materials with which the student was in contact.
- For staff, the school is to send the staff member home immediately and follow cleaning and disinfecting procedures for any area, materials, and equipment with which the staff member was in contact.

If a school staff member must take a student's temperature at any point, they should follow CDC guidelines to do so safely, including with the use of barrier protection or Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

### COVID-19 Exposure: Reporting, Notification, and Disinfecting

To ensure a clear and efficient process for communication, the school has identified a staff member as the internal COVID-19 point of contact (POC). This person is responsible for ensuring the below steps are followed in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19.

LEA B will ask families and staff to complete a short survey if they believe they have been exposed to COVID. LEA B staff will follow up with the following steps for anyone in our community who has been exposed to COVID.

### Step 1: Report to DC Health Department

The school will follow existing procedures for reporting communicable disease. In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in a student, staff member, or any individual who has entered the building, the school will notify DC Health by submitting the online case report (via this link).

## Step 2: Communication to Families and Staff

Schools are to have communication protocols in place that protect the privacy of individuals and alert their families and staff to a COVID-19 case. Communication is to be completed, per DC Health directive and will include:

- Notification to all staff and families in the event of change of school schedule,
- Notification to those staff and families of students in close contact with the individual and will state the requirement to quarantine for 14 days; and
- Notification to the entire program that there was a COVID-19 positive case, those impacted have been told to guarantine, and all areas that the individual was in contact with will be cleaned, sanitized, and disinfected.
- We will notify families through a variety of channels. For specific information on how we communicate with families and staff during emergencies or unexpected events, please see this section below.

# Step 3: Cleaning, Sanitization, and Disinfection of Affected Spaces

In the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case in a student or staff member, the school must immediately close the room(s) the COVID-19 positive individual was in once all students in that group have exited the school and follow cleaning, disinfection and sanitization guidance from the CDC, linked here:

If seven days or fewer have passed since the person who is sick used the facility, follow these steps:

1. Close off areas used by the person who is sick.

- 2. Ensure thermostat has fan on high and ensure fresh air system runs all day / night to increase circulation within room
- 3. The next day, add portable UVC equipment to room and run equipment for 12 hours (or more) to thoroughly clean the air.
- 4. After 48 hours, clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as classrooms, bathrooms, and common areas.

If more than seven days have passed since the person who is sick used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary. Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.

## **Instructional Delivery**

### Question

- 5. Describe how the LEA will deliver instruction in order to achieve continuous learning during SY 2020-21.
  - Identify the instructional methods (e.g., 100% synchronous instruction, student-guided instruction, etc.), and platforms (e.g., the product name if using a learning management system (LMS)), and materials (e.g., textbooks, teacher-generated resources, computer software, etc.) your schools will use during SY 2020-21 to ensure rigor across settings;
  - Explain the total instructional hours per day for the typical student participating in your distance learning program. Provide a breakdown of anticipated hours spent in a synchronous learning environment (learning that happens in real time with the student and teacher together) and asynchronous learning environment (independent learning that takes place without real-time input from the teacher);
  - Describe the training and professional development for school staff to support the effective implementation of this instructional plan; and
  - Describe the manner in which the LEA will ensure the plan is routinely monitored and adjusted, as needed, to address the needs of every student in the LEA across learning environments.

## Sample Responses

While LEA C developed a schedule differentiated by grade span that uses both synchronous and asynchronous methods, the vast majority of the time is synchronous and incorporates a broad curriculum that includes the humanities, enrichment, and science. LEA C intends to use Wednesday to engage with small intervention groups based on student need and provide asynchronous instruction for the remainder of that day.

LEA D plans to provide families with instructional choices based on a tiered system. The LEA will offer a hybrid model combining two days of in person instruction per week with remote instruction on other days and a 100% virtual model. The instructional plan outlines steps for synchronous and asynchronous community building to support socialization and enrichment. LEA D outlined a strong method of reviewing its plan in tandem with student evidence and data to make future adjustments.

#### **LEA Detail**

LEA Name	LEA Response
LEA C	Instructional Methods, Platforms, and Materials:
	LEA C will be providing 100% virtual instruction through Quarter 1 (August 31-October 30, 2020). As data from DC and
	the CDC becomes available throughout this time period, we will make a decision as to instructional delivery (virtual,
	hybrid, or in-person) for Quarter 2. Students in K-8 will receive synchronous instruction via Zoom, and asynchronous
	assignments will be posted daily in Google Classrooms, where teachers will also be monitoring for work completion. In
	PreK3 and PreK4, students will receive synchronous instruction via Zoom daily and will receive asynchronous work via
	the Seesaw platform. During asynchronous learning, students will also have access to a variety of online learning
	platforms, including Great Minds' InSync Platform for Eureka Math and Wit & Wisdom, Edmentum Exact Path for

grades 3-8, Edmentum Reading Eggs in K-2, Newsela, IXL Math, and Learning A to Z. All students will be equipped with appropriate devices to complete virtual learning. In PreK, students will receive iPads. In grades K-1, students will receive Lenovo tablets with a detachable keyboard. In grades 2-8, all students will receive Chromebooks. Additionally, students will receive all workbooks and texts needed to complete curriculum-related work. This includes workbooks for Eureka Math in K-8, readers, text sets, and workbooks for CKLA in K-2, and text sets for Wit & Wisdom in grades 3-8. Materials will be distributed to families the week before school starts. This process will be coordinated by principals and campus operations managers and will follow CDC guidelines for social distancing.

#### **Instructional Hours:**

Across all grade levels, students will be engaged in both synchronous and asynchronous learning on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. On Wednesdays, students will be involved in mostly asynchronous learning, with some synchronous small group instruction as needed. We have strived to create a learning schedule that is both developmentally appropriate and responsive to the difficulties created by online teaching and learning, particularly at the lower grade levels. As such, time guidelines for virtual instruction vary by grade level. In general, students will be engaged in a blend of both synchronous and asynchronous learning every day except for Wednesday between 9:00am and 4:00pm, with breaks, lunch, and recreational time included.

Though each campus leader is responsible for creating a synchronous learning schedule that meets the needs of their particular community, academic time parameters have been mandated at the district level for Humanities, Math, Science, and Enrichment, as described below:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

- Grades PreK3 and PreK4
  - o Synchronous Learning: 60 minutes per day that includes both small group and 1-1 learning time
  - Asynchronous Learning: 30 minutes per day
  - o Total: 90 minutes per day
- Grades K-2
  - Synchronous Learning: 155-180 minutes (approx. 2.5-3 hours) per day that includes targeted, differentiated small group instruction in literacy and mathematics, a full group morning meeting, and focused Enrichment time
  - o Asynchronous Learning: 80-90 minutes per day that is a combination of math and reading work
  - o Total: 235-270 minutes (approx. 4-4.5 hours) per day combined for math, literacy, enrichment, and morning meeting
- Grades 3-4

- Synchronous Learning: 180-215 minutes (approx. 3-3.5 hours) per day that includes targeted, differentiated small group instruction in literacy, humanities, and mathematics, a full group morning meeting, and focused enrichment time.
- Asynchronous Learning: 50-70 minutes per day that is a combination of math and humanities work (students will alternate amount of asynchronous work required with small group synchronous time)
- Total: 250-265 minutes (approx. 4-4.5 hours) per day combined for math, humanities, enrichment, and morning meeting

#### Grades 5-8

- Synchronous Learning: 230-275 minutes (approx. 3.75-4.5 hours) per day that includes targeted, differentiated small group instruction in humanities, mathematics, and science, a full group morning meeting, and focused Enrichment time.
- Asynchronous Learning: 50-70 minutes per day that is a combination of math and humanities work (students will alternate amount of asynchronous work required with small group synchronous time)
- Total: 280-345 minutes (approx. 4.75-5.75 hours) per day (lower side of this range for grade 5, higher for grade 8)

## Wednesday:

- Grades PreK3-PreK4:
  - o Synchronous: Morning Meeting (30 minutes) and small intervention groups as, needed
  - o Asynchronous: 30 minutes of independent work
- Grades K-2:
  - o Synchronous: Small intervention groups, as needed
  - o Asynchronous: 105-150 minutes (approx. 1.75-2.5 hours) per day in reading and math
- Grades 3-4:
  - o Synchronous: Small intervention groups, as needed
  - o Asynchronous: 120-150 minutes (approx. 2-2.5 hours) per day in reading and math
- Grades 5-8:
  - o Synchronous: Small intervention groups, as needed
  - o Asynchronous: 165-185 minutes (approx. 2.75-3 hours) per day in reading, math, and science

## **Training and Professional Development**

Over the summer, we required all instructional staff to complete the Google Fundamentals training and to receive Google Educator Level 1 certification. This provided all teachers with a baseline understanding of how to use GSuite for Education and to use Google Classrooms as our LMS.

Professional learning will take place from August 3rd through August 21st. During the first two weeks (8/3-8/14), all teachers will engage in targeted, content-specific professional development (PD) in our curriculum and in adapting instruction for distance learning. PD will be differentiated both by role and by level of experience. During the third week, teachers will be engaged in PD provided by their campus leadership teams.

In the first week of PD, new teachers will engage in primarily synchronous learning with members of the Central Office Programming, Academic, and Leadership Team (PAL - which includes the following departments: Leadership Management, Curriculum & Instruction, Student Support Services, Family Engagement, and Data & Assessment). This PD will introduce teachers to our curriculum and to the Common Core/NGSS shifts. While new teachers are engaging in synchronous learning, returning teachers will be engaging in a variety of asynchronous experiences meant to deepen their understanding or curriculum, pedagogy, and best practices in a distance learning space. For example, primary and Humanities teachers will be required to complete modules in foundational literacy and guided reading and close reading. All teachers will be required to complete the Modern Classrooms Foundational Training (provided by modernclassrooms.org) and select teachers will be required to complete certain modules in the Google Advanced Training. All asynchronous learning will include a deliverable to be completed by the end of the day (such as a welcome video for students, a sample Google classroom setup, and/or a written reflection). Teachers will also meet in their common grade/content PLC's throughout the week to share their learning, collaborate, and begin prepping their Google Classrooms.

During the second week of PD (8/10-8/14), teachers will engage in both synchronous and asynchronous learning. Many of our Humanities and Science teachers will participate in PBL 101 through PBL Works, which is being offered virtually. The training has been modified to allow teachers to reflect on how to bring project-based learning into a virtual space. This training is essential to these teachers, as LEA C uses a PBL-approach in both Social Studies and Science instruction, and this should not be disrupted by distance learning; on the contrary, PBL offers us another tool to engage students in independent learning and research, which is ideal for distance learning. Additionally, Humanities and Science teachers will continue to collaborate in their content PLC's, and they will have targeted PD in many of the online platforms we will be using for both learning and assessment (Kami, Nearpod, Zoom, Edmentum, etc.). Primary and Math teachers will similarly be engaged in workshops around tools for distance learning and will participate in "deep dives" into our accelerated scope and sequence and into the first module of our curriculum. By the end of the week, teachers will have created their classroom spaces in Google Classrooms and will have planned the first several weeks of instruction.

During the third week of PD (8/17-8/21), teachers will be engaged in professional learning designed by campus principals. During this time, they will receive information about work expectations, schedules, performance review, and materials distribution (which will take place 8/24-8/28).

## Monitoring the Instructional Delivery Plan

Campus schedule will include joining information for every synchronous session, which will be accessible to principals, assistant principals, and members of the Leadership Management, Curriculum & Instruction and Student Support Services teams. This will enable campus and district leaders and instructional coaches to access any live session to observe and to support learning. Additionally, all campus leaders will have access to each teacher's Google Classroom so that the posting of assignments and tracking of independent work can be monitored. The platforms that will be used for independent work (such as Great Minds InSync, Edmentum Exact Path) will be monitored by both campus and district leadership.

To ensure that monitoring is taking place, the Curriculum & Instruction and Student Support Services teams will continue to meet once a week to review data from learning platforms and to create additional professional learning plans based on observations of live sessions. Similarly, the PAL Team will continue to meet once a week to ensure alignment across departments. Regardless of distance or in-person learning, all campus leaders participate in a quarterly data meeting with the Managing Director of Schools, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Director of Special Education, Director of Data & Assessment, and the Director of Student & Family Engagement to discuss trends in student learning, student data, attendance, and to ascertain which students are at risk for retention. These will continue during distance learning, and we will modify the agenda to include our monitoring of student attendance in synchronous learning and their completion of asynchronous work. Students who continue to be absent or who are not completing asynchronous work will be flagged, and families will be contacted.

All principals and assistant principals will meet once per month as a PLC with the Managing Director of Schools and the Director of Curriculum & Instruction. These meetings will be an opportunity to engage in collaborative learning and problem solving and to review and monitor distance learning expectations and shifts, should they occur.

#### Overview

This plan describes how LEA D will meet its mission, goals, and student academic achievement expectations as set forth in its charter agreement through synchronous and asynchronous remote and on-site learning opportunities.

The plan provides students, families, staff, DC PCSB and OSSE with a thorough understanding of the day-to-day learning. The plan centers on equity, ensuring that all students, including students who are at risk, per the city's

definition, English learners, and/or with disabilities, are able to access all learning opportunities without further compromising their health and social-emotional well-being.

Instruction at LEA D will be structured in such a way to allow for uninterrupted learning by students when health and safety guidance changes (such as moving from Phase II to Phase III) or when the school facility is closed to staff and students due to an acute outbreak or citywide declaration. For each school day, a student will be expected to engage in a robust and developmentally appropriate day of learning with synchronous breaks for socializing.

The following options are available to families enrolling in LEA D for school year 2020-21. We will re-evaluate models periodically and families may re-evaluate their model choices and there MAY be limited opportunities for families to move from virtual learning to hybrid, depending on space availability to accommodate additional students and staff within public health guidelines. Families may move to all virtual learning at any time.

### **Instructional Options & Schedule**

ITDS has determined that MTSS tiers allow for a more seamless integration of academic, behavior and social-emotional foci and therefore serve as the foundation for our instructional plan.

- Tier 1
  - Synchronous & asynchronous instruction for all students via whole group, small group or 1-on-1 focused on prioritized standards, scheduled intervention/enrichment blocks focused on specific content determined by assessment data
- Tier 2A
  - o Targeted synchronous instruction in small groups or 1-on-1 based on assessment data provided by the lead teacher. This will be in addition to Tier 1 instruction.
- Tier 2B
  - Targeted synchronous instruction either in small groups or 1-on-1 provided by an Instructional Specialist (interventionist). Instruction will happen 'outside' of the classroom- meaning a student will not miss Tier 1 instruction in the supported subject area. Additionally, targeted goals will be developed by the Instructional Specialist with input from the classroom teacher.
- Tier 3
  - o See Special Populations Section

## Hybrid Model

Attend school in-person for two days per week, and attend school remotely using both synchronous and asynchronous activities with a teacher three days a week. For asynchronous learning, students may work on a variety

of activities, some of which may require students using computers, but many may be done without technology to be submitted when in-person or through the use of photos.

Virtual Model- Synchronous & Asynchronous (applicable during both 100% virtual & hybrid models)

Our Virtual Model will be for all students August - early November, public health conditions permitting. When we move to offering a Hybrid model, the Virtual School Model will continue to be available for students who are immunocompromised or who have a family member who is immunocompromised or whose family would prefer that the child not attend school in-person. In this option, the students will experience learning from home five days a week via synchronous and asynchronous learning. The learning may not require the student to be logged onto the computer but rather engaging in activities at the same time as their peers on-site. Additionally, students will be able to access content teachers for pre-determined and communicated office hours throughout the school week.

### Instruction

#### Personnel

- Master/Lead Teacher: Responsible for a group of students who, together, will be considered a "class." The
  teacher will see some of their class on-site and some remotely. The teacher is responsible for all aspects of
  instructional planning, delivery and assessment. Engagement with students will happen through whole group
  and small group instruction, as well as one-to-one support both in-person and via virtual learning. This adult will
  be the teacher of record for attendance and will also be the primary contact for families. Refer to our attendance
  policy for how attendance will be determined, including examples of student interactions that will be used.
- Special Education Team: Responsible for providing and managing IEP services for Special Education students. The Special Education teachers and Dedicated Aides will collaborate with the General Education teacher to meet all IEP goals, services and accommodations.
- Assistant Teacher (Preschool-4th): Partners with a master/lead teacher and is responsible for a group of students who, together, will be considered a "class." The assistant teacher will engage in whole group and small group instruction, as well as provide one-to-one support for specific students both in-person and via virtual learning. Additionally, the assistant teacher provides administrative support for master/lead teachers.
- Resident Teacher: Assigned to work with a 'Master' lead teacher throughout the academic year. The resident teacher is enrolled in a certification program and will gradually take over aspects of instructional planning, delivery and assessment. Engagement with students will happen through whole group and small group instruction, as well as one-to-one support both in-person and via virtual learning.
- Culture & Access Team: Members of this team will help support classrooms on a rotating basis around socialemotional learning, as well as attendance monitoring and overall school engagement. For remote learners, the

- Culture & Access Team will focus on students showing severe or persistent signs of disengagement, help trouble-shoot engagement issues (IT, wrap around services, content), and triage support for the student as needed.
- Operations Team: Members of this team will help support classrooms on a rotating basis to allow the teachers (master/lead, assistant and resident) to take scheduled breaks throughout the day.

## Learning Modes

- Synchronous Learning: When remote, this instruction is conducted via a platform in which student(s) and teacher are interacting directly with one another. Instruction may be given via direct instruction or with students working on projects, monitored by the teacher. The expectation is that the student(s) may ask questions and the teacher may ask questions of the student(s) to engage in real time student-learning. Instructional tasks will involve a range of activities from completing an on-line assignment or game to reading a book and annotating the text or analyzing and solving math problems. Tasks can be group work or individual work.
- Asynchronous Learning: This instruction requires the teacher to prepare learning that can be accessed any-time, any-where. An example of this type of learning would be a pre-recorded video in which the teacher provides instruction on new material. Tasks for this type of learning can be done individually or in small groups. The teacher will expect the work to be completed by a certain time each day or week. Homework also fits into this category. To ensure that the work is completed each day and students are engaged and progressing, assignments will be designated for collection daily or weekly and will be used to measure attendance and engagement. Assignments will be reviewed by the teacher and returned to students to ensure that each child receives feedback and is supported in their understanding of concepts presented. (See attendance policy for further details.) Regardless of the product, it may be collected through the Google Classroom, by photographing the work, or through different logs/journals.

## **Community Building**

- Synchronous Community Building: Planned time will be incorporated in the school day to promote student
  socialization and social-emotional learning. Such activities will be done through group engagement on-line
  including games, structured conversations, and free-form conversations about developmentally appropriate
  topics of interest to the students. Additionally, students will be given opportunities to engage in activities with
  peers that do not require adult supervision. Such activities can include games (on-line trivial pursuit, scavenger
  hunts, etc.) that students can engage in independently.
- Asynchronous Community Building: Adult-directed activities to build community, such as group projects, partnerwork, and other opportunities for students to connect with one another in informal ways will be provided. There will be a continuously growing database of school-approved and provided web-based sites that students may use at any time so long as they follow the school culture and behavior policy, particularly with respect to our

prohibition on cyber bullying. The unstructured time with friends allows for a deepening affinity for the community and facilitates connection between and among students.

### Professional Development

Prior to the start of school, teachers will receive training on Google Classroom, Clever and all of the approved applications by members of the Operations Team, Continuous Learning Team and/or Leadership Team. In addition, staff will engage in professional development throughout the year on Wednesdays, as well as previously identified days during the academic year. Professional development will focus on optimizing the effectiveness of virtual learning, assessing student learning, social-emotional learning, tier 2 interventions, student engagement during virtual learning, and building community while remote. Teachers will also support one another through grade-level and cross grade-level collaborative meetings. Dedicated time has been built into the schedule to allow for collaboration between general education and special education teachers, along with instructional interventionists.

Additionally, formal instruction will end each day by 2:15pm and the teacher's work day will end at 4pm. Each day, teachers and community leaders will have access to the IT department, behavioral support specialist, support staff, department and grade leads, and other instructional staff to troubleshoot issues that occur both on-site and remotely.

## **Timely Intervention**

Teachers will get weekly reports on each of their students enrolled in math/reading intervention to supplement information they are gleaning from student participation, small groups, work completion and formative assessments. When needed, a member of the Culture & Access Team will contact the family daily to determine if a student is disengaging and why. The staff member will triage issues and refer other specialists to support a student or family, such as: information technology, counseling, and learning.

### Continuous Improvement

LEA D will be in operation for 180 days. The schedule will be based on a trimester system to allow for updates and changes to meet the immediate needs and to adjust to the latest DC reopening phase. All changes to school scheduling will occur on the planned trimester start date except when there is an emergency requiring a transition from on-site to remote learning.

Families may choose to change their schedule on an as-needed basis through direct communication with the school. The school will accommodate all families for the start of each trimester and adjust as possible. During trimesters, there MAY be limited opportunities to move to hybrid, depending on space availability to accommodate additional students and staff within public health guidelines. Families may move to all virtual learning at any time.

Twice a month, members of the LEA D Leadership Team, along with members of the Culture & Access team will engage in a school-wide data analysis of student performance on formative assessments, disaggregated by schedule type (hybrid, on-site, remote synchronous, remote asynchronous). The analysis will control for other variables (e.g. housing instability, special education status) to confirm that each mode of content instruction is providing equitable results for student learning and growth.

Future professional development will be planned based on the results of the analysis. If it is determined that some instructional strategies are more (or less) effective than others, these will be replicated, replacing the less effective strategies.

Once a month, students, who have shown the least engagement whether by attendance or work product, will be evaluated through the Whole Child Collaborative. The team will determine the potential cause of disengagement, from equipment or Wi-Fi issues, to mental health to difficulties with content. Depending on the results, the student's educational program will be modified to ensure appropriate support.

All students will take the Devereux Students Strengths Assessment (DESSA), a social emotional learning assessment, multiple times per year. Based on the results, modifications will be made to the learning plan for cohorts or individual students.

#### Schedules

See the attached documentation for draft versions of SY20-21 schedules that include both 100% virtual learning and the LEA hybrid plan.

#### Assessment

NOTE: OSSE did not provide formal comments to public charter LEAs for these questions.

### Question

- 6. Describe the LEA's policy for identifying and administering assessments during SY 2020-21, including:
  - Which formative assessment(s) the LEA will use to measure student learning (and learning loss) at the start of SY 2020-21. Select all that apply:
  - How the LEA will plan to assess students who either do not attend school regularly in person, or who participate exclusively in distance learning. Describe the specific modalities you plan to use to ensure every student is assessed (e.g., at-home diagnostic assessments, online proctoring, physically in the building). Describe if modalities differ by grade bands.
  - When the LEA intends to administer these assessments during the school year, specifying for each assessment.

## Sample Response

The response from LEA E was clear and organized; the LEA created and shared a detailed chart that listed out the grade, subject, name, timeframe, testing modality, and interventions and support for each assessment.

#### LEA Detail

LEA Name	LEA Response
LEA E	LEA E is responsible for meeting the goals and student academic achievement expectations as set forth in its charter and its Strategic School Plan. It is also requesting from the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) a waiver from offering six hours of instruction each day. The policy below describes LEA E's commitment to assessing and learning. This policy supports the school's charter and does not replace the commitments set forth within.
	The policy summarized below describes the formative assessments that LEA E will use to assess student learning during the 2020-2021 school year. These assessments are not considered part of high stakes accountability and student test results will only be shared with the DC PCSB or OSSE if it is explicitly defined in LEA E's charter agreement or if mandated for all LEAs. Results of all assessments will be used primarily to inform instruction (including interventions and extensions) and will be shared with the student and parent/guardian.
	The policy describes the formative assessments the school is considering administering for all middle school students (both those on-campus and those learning remotely), when each assessment will be administered, and the manner in which LEA E will provide academic intervention and support. The policy also discusses grade level promotion requirements.

# **Assessment Integrity**

ACCESS/ WIDA

All families at LEA E will sign testing integrity agreements that include the parameters in which families, classmates, and others may help students on assessments and how the Internet and other resources may be used during assessments.

Grade	Subject and Assessment	When and	How students will be assessed in each	Interventions
	Туре	Frequency	modality: Hybrid, on-campus, Remote -	and supports
			synchronous and Remote - asynchronous	
6	Diagnostics at BOY and	BOY/ MOY/ EOY	On-campus: In-person	Read 180
	assessments for growth at	*BOY:Aug/Sep	Remote: Online	i-Ready
	MOY and EOY	*MOY: Dec/Jan		ESL class
	Reading (NWEA MAP)	*EOY:May/Jue	(Hybrid: in-person, but only if hybrid is an	
	Math (NWEA MAP)		option)	
	Language Usage (NWEA	BOY/MOY/EOY		
	MAP)			
		*BOY:Aug/Sep		
	Language Screening	*MOY: Dec/Jan		
	ACCESS/ WIDA	*EOY:May/Jue		
	*If an option, LEA E also			
	plans to participate in			
	PARCC for ELA and Math			
7	Diagnostics	BOY/ MOY/ EOY	On-campus: In-person	Read 180
	Reading (NWEA MAP)		Remote: Online	i-Ready
	Math (NWEA MAP)	*BOY:Aug/Sep		ESL class
	Language Usage (NWEA	*MOY: Dec/Jan	(Hybrid: in-person, but only if hybrid is an	
	MAP)	*EOY:May/Jue	option)	
	Language Screening	BOY/MOY/EOY		

\*BOY:Aug/Sep \*MOY: Dec/Jan

*If an option, LEA E also plans to participate in PARCC for ELA and Math  On-campus (including hybrid if that becomes an option at any point in the year)	Remote
During on-campus learning, students will engage in inperson assessments including:	During remote learning, students will engage in the following assessments virtually, from home:

# **Grading/Promotion**

NOTE: OSSE did not review charter applications on this question.

## Question(s)

7. Describe if/how student grading and promotion policies will be altered in light of distance learning. If the LEA is not changing its grading and promotion policy to accommodate distance learning, the LEA may provide a link to the policy or describe the existing policy.

## Sample Response

LEA F included a through explanation of grading categories and weights, assignments, "look fors", assessments and late work. The submission was also very specific regarding policy changes.

## **LEA Detail**

LEA Name	LEA Response	LEA Response			
LEA F	LEA F's first priority is to ensure that scholars are mastering state-mandated academic standards. We recognize that mastery can be shown in multiple ways. Our grading categories and weights have been designed to give an overall level of mastery through assessment, practice, and participation. To ensure consistency across grade averages, scholars' grades will reflect the following categories and weights.				
	Category	Percentage	Description		
	Major Assessments - District Assessments (Unit Tests/APTs)	30%	Benchmarks, school level assessments and End of unit performance tasks requiring students to demonstrate their mastery of the unit's content through the completion of a novel/ "real-world" application task.		
	Minor Assessments - Quizzes	30%	In class quizzes and assessments that cover small chunks (sections vs. units), some exit tickets, usually occur weekly.		
	Daily Work	30%	This includes but is not limited to problem sets, text-dependent questions, classwork, warm ups, journals, Socratic seminars, class discussions, activators, summarizers, homework, individualized practice, etc.		
	Participation	10%	Participation can be linked to work effort and completion. This may look like engagement in Socratic seminars, presentations, group projects, or in-class responses.		

### Assignments:

- Each week, scholars will receive at least three grades including one daily work, one minor assessment, and one participation grade. (Every week, scholars will receive a quiz (exit ticket) grade reflecting their mastery of content standards and grade-level content. Examples of participation are described below.)
- Each quarter, scholars should complete at least two major assessments/exams.
- All assignments should be submitted by 6pm each day. (Instructors will communicate exceptions for long-term projects, tasks, etc.)

## Participation Look Fors:

- Scholars are on screen and actively engaging. (Special circumstances should be communicated to the instructor.)
- Scholars participate when called on or willingly.
- Scholar's comments and questions are based on the learning at hand.
- Scholars frequently read, write, and discuss the material they are learning.
- When prompted, scholars are able to identify and/or explain lesson objectives.
- When prompted, scholars can describe how to complete the learning task.
- When in small groups, scholars work collaboratively, contributing and accomplishing the task at hand.
- Scholar is on task, focused and displays a high level of effort for most of the lesson.
- Scholars generally follow procedures with minimal prompting from the teacher.

#### Assessments:

- All assessments will be provided through our secure virtual platforms (Edulastic, Agile, SpringBoard, etc.)
- Scholars are required to be logged on to the appropriate platforms with their screens(videos) on.
- All scholars should complete the assessments during the testing windows provided (multiple windows can be provided.) by the instructor with screens on.

#### Middle School Late Work:

• Late work for unexcused absences will result in a 5% reduction of the earned grade per day that the work is late. (This does not apply to excused absences).

## High School Late Work:

• Late work for unexcused absences will result in a 10% reduction of the earned grade per day that the work is late. (This does not apply to excused absences).

### **Attendance & Attendance Controls**

#### Question

- 9. Describe the LEA's policy for student attendance through distance learning. In your response, be sure to identify whether the LEA is using Option A and/or Option B. The LEA should respond to the questions associated with each response. In crafting your response, note the following:
  - Schools are expected to implement their normal, in-person attendance policies and procedures when students are on school grounds
- 10. LEAs that serve students that are not compulsory age (Pre-K 3, Pre-K 4, and Adult) are not required to abide by the above attendance policy. However, they should describe their attendance expectations and policies for students.
  - Option A: The LEA is using a learning management system (LMS) for distance learning.
    - o How is the student's presence authenticated daily using the LMS?
    - o What constitutes sufficient engagement in the LMS for the student to be marked present?
  - Option B: The LEA is not using a learning management system (LMS) for distance learning.
    - o What is the complete listing of acceptable methods for making one-on-one contact with the student authenticate a student's presence?
    - o What is the procedure the LEA will use to make one-on-one contact with the student to authenticate a student's presence?
    - o What constitutes evidence of education engagement daily for the student to be marked present?
    - o How will the LEA collect, verify, enter, and store supporting data (based on its gf selection[s] above) to ensure that the official attendance records of students are accurate?
    - o What student-level data specifically would be furnished to OSSE in the event of an audit of attendance records?

## Sample Responses

LEA G intends on using Option A and, in its plan, stated that will use multiple methods to authenticate the presence of each individual student in the virtual classroom (e.g., phone calls, submissions of student work, face-to-face contact through an online platform, etc.) and ensure student engagement through a variety of means, including viewing lessons, engaging in discussion, and completion of assignments. The LEA even went so far as to provide a matrix that outlines the criteria for each level of attendance (i.e., present, partial day present, absent) by learning modality (i.e., on-site synchronous, on-site asynchronous, remote synchronous, remote asynchronous).

LEA H also intends to use Option A and its plan had clear methods to meet the two-part test for attendance: the LEA will both authenticate student presence (e.g., face-to-face contact or logging on to the LMS, Schoology). LEA H's response was notable because it exceeded the expectations of the question to outline how it plans to follow up with families in the case of a missed instructional day and provided detail about supporting students with technological issues.

# LEA Detail

LEA Name	LEA Response
LEA G	(Question 9)
	Option A (LEA using LMS for distance learning.)
	<ul> <li>In SY 2020-21, LEA G will utilize two types of attendance: in-person and distance learning:         <ul> <li>Our in-person attendance will be implemented in accordance with our normal, in-person attendance policies, which delineate how a student is counted as present, what types of absences are excused and unexcused, and what level of presence constitutes a full or partial school day.</li> <li>Our distance learning attendance will be implemented as outlined below and will record attendance as outlined below.</li> <li>In our distance learning schedule for SY 2020-21, students will have a synchronous advisory session each day.</li> <li>Teachers who serve as advisors will take daily attendance during the advisory calls and will log that attendance in our DeansList platform. Data from DeansList feeds automatically into our PowerSchool system.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Touchpoints that LEA G will use include the following methods:         <ul> <li>Phone conversations or virtual meeting one-on-one with instructional staff to discuss content, i.e. attending a teacher's virtual tutorial by Zoom</li> <li>Direct 'face-to-face' online contact through class Zoom, Skype, Google Hangout, etc.</li> <li>Completed exit tickets (Google form, etc.) after viewing a pre-recorded video OR using software such as IXL that provides demonstration of similar completion of work</li> <li>Completed assignments uploaded within Unified Classroom or other similar platform from daily activity (&gt;50% complete will be considered present, regardless of accuracy)</li> <li>Email (using school-provided and secure student and teacher email addresses) or upload photos of completed assignments, projects, or videos of activities (such as PE) in a secure portal</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	(Question 10) <u>Collection and Verification of Attendance Data</u> LEA G will take the following steps to track student attendance: Advisory teachers will log daily attendance following the Zoom advisory session that will take place on all synchronous and asynchronous days. All classroom teachers will also take attendance during synchronous classes or will enter attendance to document full or partial completion of more than 50% of an assignment during asynchronous learning. Advisors and teachers will enter attendance for the class period into DeansList. This will automatically synch with PowerSchool.

The registrar, who serves as the attendance officer for LEA G, will review daily attendance records for all advisory and classroom sessions, and will make adjustments to the daily attendance as she would during the normal school year. This includes designating absences as excused or unexcused after reviewing parent communications, revising daily attendance to present if a student missed advisory but was marked present for all classes during synchronous or asynchronous learning days, and documenting any disciplinary actions which would result in a student missing a day of instruction.

LEA G will take the following actions to address absences:

- Advisors will be alerted if a student is absent for two consecutive days and make a phone call home.
- If absences persist, administrators and counseling staff will be assigned cohorts of students for follow-up from the primary building attendance administrator.
- Teachers will contact absent students and families by email and phone to determine reason for absence and determine what's needed to ensure future attendance.
- Students who meet the definition of chronically absent will be reported to child and family services, as required by law.

The table below outlines the standards by which a student is marked present, partially present, or absent for a given school day. All of this data will be maintained within our PowerSchool system, printed on report cards, and can be furnished to OSSE as needed in the event of an audit of attendance records:

synchronous	asynchronous		
5 . 5 . 6. 1	asynchious	synchronous	asynchronous
of the school of OR Attends <80% day on-site AN remote learnin	nt Present: Student for >80% attends school for >80% of the school day. OR of school Attends <80% of school	Present Remote: Student presence is detected throughout school day's activities (A) captured in LMS (B) participates by one or more of the following touchpoints:	Present Remote: Student attends advisory Zoom AND fully or partially completes >50% of the day's assignments.  Student logs in to LMS and fully or partially completes >50% of the day's assignments.

			community building activities (games, etc.)  Submits photo of student work  Submits video of activity (e.g. PE, music)  Saves student work in file, showing some progress  Responds to documented contact(s) from a counselor, administrator, dean, and/or content teacher	Student responds to documented contact(s) from a counselor, administrator, dean, and/or content teacher
Partial Day Present	Partial Present: Student attends school for <80% of the school day and is not captured in remote touchpoints when physically absent.	attends school for <80% of the school day and is	N/A	N/A
Absent	on-site during the school day and is not captured in Remote	Absent: Student is not on-site during the school day and is not captured in Remote Touchpoints.	captured in any of the remote touchpoints AND does not meet	Absent Remote: Student does not produce evidence that assignments are partially complete.
• At • An pa	ext alert via DeansList to general or text alert from Drents/guardians.	get up for the day for adv eansList if the student is	g synchronously remotely will rec risory. marked absent for advisory, whi nt for advisory and has also beer	ch will also be sent to

	Collecting and Reporting System  The school will log all contacts with a student and family using DeansList. For students who are marked "absent," the school's in-person attendance policy with consequences will be followed for reporting requirements and attendance verification.
LEA H	<ul> <li>(Question 9)</li> <li>Option A (LEA using LMS for distance learning.)</li> <li>LEA H utilizes Schoology to capture engagement with instructional materials virtually.</li> <li>Touchpoints that LEA H will use to determine remote attendance include the following methods:         <ul> <li>Direct "face-to-face" online contact through class Google Hangout or Zoom</li> <li>Completed exit tickets either on the class's curriculum platform, Schoology, or other software (such as Nearpod) that provides demonstration of similar completion of work.</li> <li>Completed assignments submitted via Schoology from daily activity.</li> <li>Engaging with instructional materials housed on Schoology for the predetermined amount of time.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>(Question 10)</li> <li>Attendance Monitoring and Reporting         <ul> <li>LEA H will take the following steps to track student attendance:</li> <li>Teachers are responsible for daily attendance for students on-site and will follow existing attendance protocols.</li> <li>The LEA H Data Manager will enter attendance for students learning remotely using the following criteria:</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>PreK: Logging into Schoology at least once each day</li> <li>K-3: Logging into Schoology at least once each day and at least one additional touchpoint (turning in an assignment/exit ticket and/or spending at least 60 minutes engaging in working on materials on Schoology and/or attending at least one live class that day)</li> <li>4-8: Logging into Schoology at least once each day and at least two additional touchpoints each day (turning in an assignment/exit ticket and/or spending at least 120 minutes engaging in working on materials on Schoology and/or attending at least one live class that day)</li> <li>The Data Manager is responsible for entering attendance data the next business day for data pulled from Schoology so that we capture attendance for both synchronous and asynchronous remote learning students. For students that are marked present by attending live classes, the classroom teacher is responsible for updating attendance in PowerSchool at the end of the instructional day.</li> </ul>

- LEA H will take the following actions to address absences:
  - o Teachers, counseling staff, and attendance staff will be assigned cohorts of students for follow-up from the Data Manager.
  - o Teachers and other staff members will contact absent students and families by email and phone to determine reason for absence and determine what's needed to ensure future attendance.
  - Students who meet the definition of chronically absent will be reported to child and family services, as required by law.

# **Attendance Policy by Learning Modality**

Attendance Code	On-Site	Remote
Present	Student attends school for at least 80% of the school day	PK: Student logs into Schoology at least once during the day
	OR	K-3: Student logs into Schoology at least once during the day
	Student attends less than 80% of the school	
	day on-site AND is remote learning for the remainder of the school day.	AND
		Student turns in at least one assignment during
		the day OR student engages in instructional
		materials on Schoology for at least 60 minutes
		OR student attends at least one live class
		4-8: Student logs into Schoology at least once
		during the day
		AND
		Student turns in at least two assignments
		during the day OR student engages in
		instructional materials on Schoology for at leas

		120 minutes OR student attends at least one live class * Special exemption policy noted below for students having technology issues that prevent them in engaging in digital instruction for a certain period of time.
Partial Day Present	Student attends school for less than 80% of the school day and does not meet the criteria to be marked remote present.	N/A
Absent	Student is not on-site during the school day and does not meet the criteria to be marked remote present.	Student does not meet the above criteria to be marked remote present.

The families of elementary and middle school students who are learning remotely will receive the following:

- A robo reminder call to get ready for school.
- Text message reminders containing the schedule for the day
- A robo call to the family notifying them of the student's absence from school.
- Students with a history of absences may receive additional interventions, including phone calls from teachers and engagement specialists until a pattern of good attendance is achieved.

If a student experiences a technology problem that inhibits them from being able to participate in virtual learning for more than one day:

- The family must reach out to the homeroom teacher
- The homeroom teacher will contact the attendance team to inform them that the student will be absent until the technology issue can be resolved. While the technical issues are occurring, the teacher will reach out to that family directly each day to discuss the day's learning. A touchpoint for that day would be a phone conversation with the student to discuss the day's learning and provide assistance on the assignments for that day. The teacher will log the communication in DeansList and email the data manager as further documentation of the call placed to the student.
- Students will receive excused absences until they can restart daily virtual education
- The attendance team will work with the homeroom teacher to follow-up and see if the missed work is completed asynchronously. If it is successfully completed, this will be logged, and the attendance code will be updated to present.

## **Whole Student Support**

### Question

11. Describe the LEA's plan for supporting students social-emotional and mental health needs during continuous learning and school recovery. Also describe how, during your planning, the LEA will identify and provide academic intervention to students who have lost the most learning due to COVID-19.

## Sample Responses

Despite the numerous other concerns LEAs must plan for in their continuous education plans, LEA I and LEA J both shared responses for whole student support that were considerate of the realities being faced by students and how they can manifest in the learning environment.

LEA I outlined a comprehensive plan for supporting students that demonstrated integration and alignment with the LEA's trauma-responsive initiative, while LEA J provided detailed descriptions of SEL and academic intervention programs that included the daily schedule for student social-emotional connections and the academic intervention session structure.

### **LEA Detail**

LEA Name	LEA Response
LEA Name	Social-Emotional and Mental Health – Trauma-Responsive Practices  Before this pandemic, LEA I was committed to trauma-responsive practices for all students and continues to prioritize trauma treatment and practices as we prepare for school year 20-21. Schools were readied to implement LEA I's Trauma Responsive Schools (TRS) model via several professional development opportunities. Schools were specifically charged with developing re-opening and recovery plans that emphasize Relationships, Routines and Resilience. To that end, each school will demonstrate evidence in their plans for how they will implement "Five
	Non-Negotiables".  1. Every teacher spends dedicated time with their classroom or homeroom students to build relational trust.  2. Every student is greeted with positive and affirmative language daily and with each classroom transition.  3. Every school should include opportunities for staff wellness.  4. Every school provides opportunities and designated space to practice emotional regulation.  5. Every school teaches, models, and reinforces school-wide behavior expectations for students and adults.
	Schools have received professional development on how to implement these strategies both in person and virtually. The School Mental Health Team and the Social Emotional Learning Team will provide technical support to schools throughout the school year to ensure that the strategies are being implemented to promote recovery.

In addition, school-based mental health teams will continue to support students at all levels of need. The School Mental Health Team offers 19 Evidenced Based Treatments and Practices (EBT's) to include trauma-focused interventions for students of all ages. School mental health providers will be trained on completing assessments using a trauma informed lens at the start of this school year.

#### Academic Interventions

Our approach to providing instruction in response to unfinished learning in the SY19-20 year begins with designing updated scope and sequences for our tier 1 classes that address these missed standards and topics through organic integration into the SY20-21 scope and sequences for our courses. Additionally, we have embedded frequent checks for mastery within the curriculum as an effort to support teachers with identifying student learning gaps early in order to frequently maintain a pulse of content acquisition and provide differentiated and responsive instruction. For students who demonstrate the most significant academic needs, academic intervention plans are created within schools that clearly identify learning gaps, appropriate interventions to address these gaps, and structured methods to monitor and respond to student progress.

## Student Support

At LEA J, our primary core value is Relationships – "I am my brother's keeper." and as such we continue practice distance compliance as we engage the work of building, maintaining and leveraging relationships to impact outcomes for the young male scholars that we serve.

The surveying and interviewing that we did with our families before, during and after COVID-19 school closure started deeply informed our program. Mental Health, emotional wellness and relational connection were all at the top of the list for parents and students. There was a great concern that the deep connections that the students had to their teachers would be lost. Using the Panorama data, which indicates that our students rank in the top 10% of schools across the nation when it comes to connectedness to their teachers, we instituted North Star Advisories to support in maintaining strong relationships. Each students picture was placed on the wall and the entire staff did a gallery walk leaving post-it notes on the faces of students that they felt a special bond with. We found that every LEA J was more than covered. We used that data to create 5 student pods that would be anchored by each staff member.

- North Star Advisories meet in a Zoom Check-in every morning and engage in 5 of 20 different relational activities each day
- North Star Advisories create their own path of engagement each day and have members of the pod lead various activities
- North Star Advisors execute a one-on-one call or recorded Zoom check-in with each member of the group each day

LEA J

- Student receive between 2 and 5 personal outreach contacts from their advisor or other LEA J team member each day
- Parents receive 2 to 5 personal outreach contacts from their advisor or other LEA J team member each week
- Each day, students will participate in a series of whole group gatherings to support on-time engagement in classes, bring positive energy into the day, engage in team building and mindfulness activities and celebrate the success that students have had in the day before
  - Sunrise Whole Group Gathering
  - Virtual Lunch/Electives
  - Midday Whole Group Gathering
  - Sunset Whole Group Gathering
- Wednesday Mornings are an extended Sunrise session where more of the relational activities can be engaged in both the whole space, breakout rooms and when they break into their relational Crews
- Again, students may also choose to engage in Office Hours that will be available each day
- Each day, at the Sunrise session, students engage in a series of queries regarding their emotional level and teachers use these self-reported levels to connect with students to create opportunities for them to process their emotions and connect students in seeming emotional distress with the School Counselor

## Just-In-Time Recovery

The program as it is designed has demonstrated an ability to support every kind of learner. The MAP results at the end of Spring were not what we wanted, but certainly more than would have been expected. We are doubling down on what worked. Students who are demonstrating the slowest growth and greatest loss will be targeted for support during the times when students are released to independent work. These students will receive one-on-one and small group support in completing assignments. Additionally, SWDs and struggling learners will be a part of a pilot of Read 180, a partnership that we are enrolled in through a SOAR grant given to the Special Education Collaborative. This program will provide additional recovery for students with the slowest growth and greatest losses. We engage Acute Academic Intervention and will more deliberately implement this methodology in the virtual space as well:

- Exit tickets analyzed
- Students grouped by misconception
- 15 to 30-minute skill specific instruction provided
- Exit ticket administered again

A structure like this has been a part of the general academic program at LEA J, showing particular effectiveness for SWDs and struggling learners.

#### **Behavior**

### Question

- 12. Describe the LEA's policy for monitoring student behavior during distance learning. All parts of the distance learning discipline policy must be compliant with applicable local and federal law (e.g., limits on total days excluded, restrictions on reasons a student may be excluded). Your policy must include:
  - A list of behaviors that could result in a student being excluded from distance learning (e.g., inappropriate conduct on virtual platforms);
  - The manner in which the LEA will communicate with families of students who are excluded from distance learning; and
  - The manner in which you will ensure that students who are excluded from distance learning have access to missed work.

### Sample Responses

Both of the LEAs selected here submitted responses that were thoughtful of the needs of teachers, students, and families in creating a safe learning environment; though these stakeholders' concerns can be difficult to balance, both LEAs outlined clear processes for responding to instances of misbehavior and patterns of ongoing disruption without excluding students.

LEA K included detailed information on distance learning behaviors that could result in an exclusion, how parents and families would be informed of a student's misbehavior and/or disciplinary action, and potential modifications to virtual learning. LEA L outlined very clear expectations for behavior. For anticipated behavioral infractions, LEA L outlined a progressive sequence of interventions that would take place, ranging from parent conferences to the adjustment of virtual learning settings, each of which demonstrate the LEAs' commitment to ensuring that student access to education is consistent with local law.

#### LFA Detail

LEA Name	LEA Response	
LEA Name		
LEA K	Expected behavior for students who are learning virtually are similar to those for the physical school community. Students are expected to treat their teachers, classmates, staff, and physical and virtual environment with respect. The virtual learning environment requires additional expectations to ensure that students have a safe, high quality learning experience while outside of the school building. The details below apply to expectations whenever students are engaged in virtual learning.	
	LEA K Student Expectations Plan	
	Communication and  • Students must communicate respectfully with their classmates and their teacher	
	Student Engagement while in class meetings, breakout rooms and private/public chat windows and	
	discussion boards.	

	Students must follow all classroom and school expectations for using audio and video during classroom meeting times.
	Students must mute their microphones when they are not speaking and while others are speaking.
	<ul> <li>Students must refrain from sharing inappropriate pictures or images during</li> </ul>
	classroom meetings or on discussion boards.
	Students must follow the same rules for whole group class meetings while in
	breakout rooms.
	Students must immediately return to whole group meetings once breakout rooms
	are over unless otherwise directed by the teacher.
	Students must report to classroom meetings on time and remain in classroom
	meetings until being dismissed by the teacher.
	Students must not post any private information for themselves or others such as
	addresses, phone numbers or passwords on public chat or discussion boards.
	Students must refrain from any forms of cyberbullying - harassing, threatening or
	abusing others within the school community while online.
	Students must report all instances of cyberbullying to school staff immediately.
Logging into Canvas	Students must keep their username and passwords in a safe place and must not
	share them with other students.
	Students must log into the Canvas using their own log-in information.
	Students must log into the Canvas daily for classroom meetings, announcements
	or to submit assignments.
Student Work	Students must complete work on time following the guidelines requested by the
	teacher for submission. Students should contact their teacher if they need
	additional time to complete assignments.
	Students must submit their own work and provide citations for work created by
	others.
	Students must communicate immediately with their teachers via email, phone or
	text if they have questions or require any technical support.
Taking Care of Physical	Students must treat all school and personal electronic devices with care.
Equipment	Students must keep food and drinks away from the equipment.
	Students must keep devices out of extremely cold or hot areas.
	Students must hold and carry computers properly.

Students must report any damage to school equipment as soon as possible.

## Monitoring of Student Behavior

- Administration/teachers will regularly review student discussion boards to make sure comments are appropriate.
- Administrators will pop-in frequently to observe classroom meetings.
- Teachers will provide ongoing reminders for students about classroom expectations within a virtual setting.
- School staff will regularly remind students of expectations for taking care of personal/school-issued equipment.
- Staff members will be responsible for supporting students and families with navigating Canvas and be available to provide students with technical support.
- School staff will continue to track student participation and engagement with Canvas according to the policies outlined in the student handbook.
- Grades/attendance will be reported to families. Families can view login information and grades at any time beginning September 15 through Canvas.
- Teachers will communicate concerns with families by phone, email, text or Infinite Campus (our Student Information System).

## Modifications to Virtual Learning

School staff may limit or restrict students' access to synchronous learning opportunities if they repeatedly fail to meet expectations for virtual learning. Parents/guardians will be immediately notified about any changes to students' access to Canvas by phone or email.

If students do not follow expectations for communicating respectfully with school staff or other students:

- School staff will remind students of expectations for virtual learning.
- School staff will conference with families about school expectations not being met.
- Teachers may temporarily adjust student's audio, video, or chat privileges during synchronous meetings.
- Teachers may temporarily limit students' ability to post content on Canvas chat and require students to email assignments directly.

If these interventions are not successful in changing students' behavior, school staff may temporarily assign students to asynchronous learning opportunities in lieu of synchronous instruction.

If students use Canvas inappropriately, such as share their username/passwords, intentionally misuse Canvas or log in as another user:

School staff will remind students of expectations for virtual learning.

- School staff will conference with families about school expectations not being met.
- School staff may temporarily assign students to asynchronous learning in lieu of synchronous instruction.

If students engage in cyberbullying or display/share inappropriate images on Canvas:

- School staff will conference with families about school expectations not being met.
- School staff may temporarily assign students to asynchronous learning in lieu of synchronous instruction.

These modifications to behavior expectations for virtual learning are designed to ensure that students will not be excluded from the virtual learning platform.

### LEA L

## **Important Definitions**

Chat: A window used for conferencing between two users or small groups.

Discussion board: Section of the school platform where users can submit or read messages.

*Virtual lesson*: Live interaction between students and teachers, the equivalent of in-person direct instruction or intervention.

## **Expected behavior**

Whether in-person or online, students are expected to follow the code of conduct outlined in the Parent-Student Handbook and all school policies as well as their teachers' classroom rules.

## Communication and Student Engagement

- Students must communicate respectfully with their classmates and their teacher while in class meetings, breakout rooms and private/public chat windows and discussion boards.
- Students must follow all classroom and school expectations for using audio and video during classroom meeting times.
- Students must mute their microphones when they are not speaking and while others are speaking.
- Students must refrain from sharing inappropriate content anywhere on the platform.
- Students must follow the same rules for whole group class meetings while in breakout rooms.
- Students must report to classroom meetings on time and remain in classroom meetings until dismissed by the teacher.
- Students must not post any private information for themselves or others such as addresses, phone numbers or passwords.
- Students must refrain from any forms of bullying, discrimination, or harassment, threatening or abusing others.

# Logging into the Platform

- Students must keep their username and passwords in a safe place and must not share them with others.
- Students must log into the platform using their own log-in information.
- Students must log into the platform daily for classroom meetings, announcements or to submit assignments.

#### Student Work

- Students must complete work on time following the guidelines requested by the teacher for submission.
- Students must submit their own work and provide citations for work created by others.
- Students must communicate immediately with their teachers via chat message in the platform or via email if they have questions or require any technical support.

## **Taking Care of Physical Equipment**

- Students must treat all school property with care.
- Students must keep food and drinks away from the equipment.
- Students must report any damage to school equipment as soon as possible.

## Monitoring of Student Behavior

- Administration/teachers will regularly review student discussion boards to make sure comments are appropriate.
- Administrators will pop-in frequently to observe classroom meetings.
- Teachers will provide ongoing reminders for students about classroom expectations within a virtual setting.
- School staff will regularly remind students of expectations for taking care of personal/school-issued equipment.
- Teachers will communicate concerns with parents by e-mail, phone, or ParentSquare message.

# Consequences for Failing to Meet Behavior Expectations during Distance Learning

Failure to meet teacher expectations during distance learning is the equivalent of failing to meet teacher expectations for behavior in an in-person setting and will be governed by the rules set forth in the Parent-Student Handbook, school policies, as well as classroom rules.

School staff may limit or restrict students' access to synchronous learning opportunities if they repeatedly fail to meet expectations for distance learning. Parents/guardians will be immediately notified about any behavior-related changes to students' access to the digital platform by email, phone, or ParentSquare message.

If students do not follow expectations for communicating respectfully with school staff or other students:

- School staff will remind students of expectations for distance learning.
- School staff will conference with families about school expectations not being met.
- Teachers may temporarily adjust students' audio, video or chat privileges on the platform. The student will
  maintain access to pre-recorded materials and distributed assignments in the event that this action takes
  place.
- Teachers may temporarily limit students' ability to post content on digital platform chat or discussion boards. The student will maintain access to pre-recorded materials and distributed assignments in the event that this action takes place.
- If these interventions are not successful in changing students' behavior, school staff may temporarily assign students to access only pre-recorded materials and assignments without the opportunity to participate in live meetings or discussions.

If students use the digital platform inappropriately, such as share their username/passwords, intentionally misuse the digital platform or log in as another user:

- School staff will remind students of expectations for distance learning.
- School staff will conference with families about school expectations not being met.
- School staff may change the method of delivery of asynchronous materials, but students will maintain access to pre-recorded content and assignments.

If students engage in cyberbullying or share inappropriate images on the digital platform:

- School staff will conference with families about school expectations not being met.
- School staff may change the method of delivery of asynchronous materials, but students will maintain access to pre-recorded content and assignments.
- Depending on the type of content shared or the seriousness of the offense, local law enforcement may be alerted to the inappropriate conduct.
- These modifications to distance learning are designed to ensure that students will not be excluded from distance learning.

## **Special Education**

#### Question

- 13. Describe the LEA's plan to serve Students with Disabilities, including:
  - A description of how the LEA is maintaining IDEA timelines in collaboration with families and documenting delivered services;
  - The steps the LEA is taking to ensure that family members with disabilities (e.g. a guardian with visual impairment) can access content to support their students learning;
  - The manner in which LEA deliver related services for students in distance learning;
  - The manner in which the LEA will support parent training for students receiving related services through distance learning;
  - The manner in which LEAs will deliver recovery services to students with disabilities during the 2020-21 school year and how LEAs will communicate those services to families;
  - The steps LEAs will take to ensure that students with disabilities are assessed upon return to school to determine the nature and severity of the impact of learning loss on their receipt of educational benefit; and
  - The steps LEAs will take to support the delivery of recovery services to students in the care of the District of Columbia and students experiencing homelessness.

#### Sample Responses

LEA M shared extensive information on successes in service delivery in the 2019-20 school year that will be carried over for the current year, as well as parent engagement practices designed to meet family needs in areas of flexibility, transparency, and training. LEA M's submission also provided a clear recovery planning framework for students with disabilities.

LEA N focused on parent training and support and included a robust discussion of ongoing service delivery in conjunction with recovery services. The response also touched on key training points from the OSSE training series and toolkit usage. Overall, the plan showed an understanding of how to operationalize flexibility under IDEA, emphasized the importance of parent engagement and training, and outlined intentional routines to meet requirements of the assurances.

### **LEA Detail**

LEA Name	LEA Response	
LEA M	This submission is a narrative to demonstrate how LEA M will meet the educational and social-emotional needs of	
	students with disabilities and English learners.	
	Students with Disabilities	
	When schools had to close their doors in March 2020 LEA M was able to continue providing its special education	
	services and maintain strong connections with families to keep them engaged and supported in their children's	

goals and services throughout the remainder of the school year. All IEP meetings and evaluations were conducted virtually, as well as specialized instruction and therapies with contractors and the in-house Speech Language Therapist. The Inclusion Coordinator continued to document cases in the SEDS system and maintained regular communication with families. LEA M will continue to maintain all timelines and documentation requirements for the 20-21 school year.

The inclusion coordinator-maintained IDEA timelines in collaboration with families by communicating with them weeks prior to upcoming eligibility or annual IEP reviews. Families were able to choose whether holding virtual meetings with the educational team was a suitable option for them or to postpone them until school reopened. All families received a thorough explanation of how postponing the meeting could impact their child's education through the impact that could have on therapies or being able to review their current IEP goals. LEA M families eagerly participated in all meetings, and in their child's subsequent virtual therapies. There was one exception in which an evaluation had begun before the school closing and there was no possibility for an in-person session to complete it. In that case, the family was informed and agreed to postpone the evaluation until school reopened. A Prior Written Notice was completed and documented in SEDS regarding the conversation and agreement with the parent to postpone the evaluation until it could be carried out in person.

All related services delivered virtually during the COVID-19 school closing were regularly documented in the SEDS system. Each therapist continued to use service trackers to document their sessions with students. The service trackers included notes about the different ways in which services were being delivered (i.e., Zoom meetings, texts, video links, pictures between parent and therapists to supplement sessions) as well as the parent coaching component that was a principal element of success in serving LEA M students with disabilities during remote learning.

Eligibility and IEP meeting documents were generated and subsequently uploaded in SEDS. All meetings during remote learning were done by conference call with prior permission from the parent, and included members of the child's educational team: general education teacher, special education teacher, therapist, parent, LEA representative, and a representative who could interpret the results of evaluations.

LEA M delivered laptops with touchscreens to 95% of children with IEPs in spring 2020 and the IT team ensured each family had the internet capability and support needed to be able to access all educational services. As we did in the Spring, we will continue to provide accessible assistance for parents on how to get the applications and links that are needed for services, and how to connect and download any necessary information. In the case of a parent with a visual impairment our technology team works with vendors to purchase add-ons and use technology to

provide accessibility. The only reason that 100% of children with IEPs did not receive laptops is that one family refused the device stating that they already had the devices needed.

We utilized multiple modalities and mediums for communication including phone calls, video chats, written communication, postal deliveries, and home deliveries of hands-on materials to use for meeting learning goals. We ensure that communication is provided in the way that the parent can receive it and collaborate with the Student Services team to ensure that parents of students with disabilities who also have medical or therapeutic needs can access services and support themselves. LEA M's strategic partnership with Mary's Center, a Federally Qualified Health Center with wraparound services has been integral in meeting a variety of adult as well as child needs. There were frequent follow up calls and meetings with parents of students with disabilities between the Special Education Coordinator and teachers to ensure that all content provided from specialists could be extended and embedded into some of the home learning activities and that parents were fully informed and supportive of the methodologies being used and how to monitor progress.

LEA M was able to start remote learning in March 2020 with the right ingredients for effective special education services for students with disabilities experiencing the school closure in Spring 2020 and will be able leverage those same successes, combined with staff and parent feedback to deliver even more robust services in 20-21. Although online learning is typically not the ideal learning modality for young children, LEA M's students with IEPs were able to continue to thrive and meet their goals during this time. Although having children at home full time is less than ideal for parents and their schedules, the therapists and teachers were able to make the most of this situation by providing additional parent training. Parents had a daily view of what these services looked like and the strong relationships that they already had with staff contributed to the success of the model. Now that we have considerable experience in providing therapies and services in remote settings and parents have experienced them alongside their children they will be equipped and informed to make the choice between our hybrid model or virtual options. We will continue to engage in frequent communication including many texts, pictures, visuals, video chats, and meetings with special education teachers.

LEA M will carry over the most successful parent training methods from Spring 2020 into 20-21 such as video chats, phone calls, and individual sessions that focus on use of the materials that the school provides to them. The personal relationships that were formed between inclusion teachers and parents will continue and for new students the same elements and step by step process that LEA M has developed to attain meaningful family engagement and bi-directional communication will be implemented. Furthermore, the parents of LEA M children are enrolled in adult education classes in LEA M's two generation school and receive robust parent training throughout the whole school year that covers all areas of child development.

LEA M will utilize developmental screening, and other forms of data collection including meetings with each child's educational team to decide on the best way to deliver necessary recovery services to students with disabilities during the 2020-2021 school year. Parents will be part of the decision and the process of determining the most appropriate method to deliver recovery services for their children. The educational team that will collaborate to make the decision along with the parent includes therapists, a special education teacher, general education teachers, and the inclusion coordinator/case manager.

LEA M plans to offer parents the following options to deliver recovery services during the 2020-2021 school year:

- Temporarily adding time to the child's IEP for related services for period depending on progress that is documented during the first eight weeks of school after the change of service hours. Parents will have the option of choosing in person or virtual delivery of related services for their child.
- Providing extra parent coaching with supplemental activities and materials for home on a weekly basis that specifically targets the child's IEP goals (in person at school, and/or during virtual distance learning sessions).

The special education team will collect and utilize information from various data sources during the first six weeks of school to be able to determine if a student with disabilities needs recovery services and/or to what extent the student needs such services. The inclusion coordinator will work in collaboration with parents, special education teachers, general education teachers, and therapists to be able to have a clear picture of the child's current levels of performance as it relates to their IEP goals. The Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3) screener will also be used to better assess the child in all developmental areas along with parent input.

LEA M will accommodate students with disabilities. LEA M will acquire the necessary equipment for students with physical disabilities such as special chairs and desks (for onsite learning), touch screen laptops, assistive technology, audio textbooks, educational software, and specialized cell phone applications, as appropriate. LEA M will administer the Empire State Screen: Learning Needs Screen for Non-English-Speaking Adults, a learning disabilities screen, to LEA M students to determine their learning needs and whether they could be referred for additional diagnostic assessment. A Learning Information Survey is also administered to determine in class learning needs and preferences. In cases where additional information is needed, the Learning Needs Screening tool and English Language Learner Student Learning Information Questionnaire are administered. All teachers are trained to provide appropriate and differentiated instruction. Learners who are struggling in class and whose screener indicates they need additional diagnostic testing will be referred to Assess for Success which is coordinated by the OSSE Adult and Family Education office. LEA M will work with the diagnosticians to include critical information in the report that will help with the students' college and career pathways. The diagnostic results will be used to get the student

accommodations such as extended time on required assessments. Diagnosticians may also suggest classroom accommodations such as recording lectures, large print, oral and written directions, extended time for assignments, and quiet testing spaces. Finally, LEA M will request that the diagnostic reports include suggestions for workplace accommodations that would benefit the learner to ensure improved performance and completion of assignments such as oral and written directions, modeling of tasks to be completed, and quiet work space for individual tasks.

LEA M will set, communicate, and ensure high expectations for students with disabilities. LEA M will have built-in structures to better meet the academic needs of students. LEA M will provide a tutoring program. Tutoring will be provided to learners struggling to meet academic outcomes Reading strategies will be reviewed in class.

LEA M's Homelessness Liaison will continue to serve as the point of contact for documenting and advocating for LEA M families who are experiencing homelessness in order to ensure they receive appropriate accommodations under the McKinney-Vento Law. For LEA M families, this will include PreK student access to early intervention services; the rights of PreK and school-age children to continue their education in their "school of origin" and access to transportation to and from school. In addition to ensuring LEA M provides these and other support services, our Homelessness Liaison will also collaborate with Liaisons at other schools where the children of LEA M adult students attend. Staff from our administrative and student services teams will work directly with families in this category and will share all relevant information with our Homelessness Liaison.

LEA N

- 1. LEA N will continue collaborating with families to find mutually agreeable times to hold IEP and eligibility meetings to ensure compliance with IDEA timelines. Communications with families will be documented internally, via Prior Written Notices, and in the communications log in SEDs. Service delivery will be documented in SEDS under related service session notes.
- 2. LEA N is conducting individual meetings with each student and family prior to the start of the school year. During these initial conversations, LEA N staff will assess any unique needs of each family, focusing on those with specific disabilities that require modifications to communicate and/ or access learning platforms. LEA N Principals and campus leadership teams will train all teachers on how to effectively assess needs of families during these conversations. Based on the needs assessed at the start of the school year, the Teacher and Special Education Coordinator, in partnership with their Principal if necessary, will establish specific communication protocols for individual family members with specific needs.
- 3. LEA N will deliver related services as outlined on a student's IEP, to the greatest extend possible, in a remote, online setting. Sessions will be documented in SEDS under related service session notes.

- 4. LEA N will conduct regular and responsive parent training sessions, including family orientations and individual student/ family meetings to ensure that parents/ caregivers are prepared to reinforce and transfer skills with teachers and/ or service providers. Training will be provided remotely through an online video conferencing platform. These training sessions will be conducted both prior to the start of school and during the entire period of remote learning.
- 5. LEA N will deliver recovery services in asynchronous and synchronous formats that allow students to participate in general education whole group instruction, general education small group instruction, and specialized instruction services delivered in the manner most appropriate to the students' needs. Students may receive individual or small group specialized instruction.
- 6. Prior to the start of the school year, Special Education Coordinators will notify families of the overall service delivery plan with timelines that outline additional rounds of communication from teachers and related service providers to schedule services. LEA N teachers and related service providers will collaborate with families to determine a mutually agreeable time to deliver remote instruction within the overall LEA N instructional delivery model. Specialized instruction will be delivered, to the greatest extent possible, through small group and/ or individual sessions focused on ensuring student access to the general education curriculum and particular focus on student IEP goals.
- 7. All of LEA N's students will be assessed at the beginning of the school year remotely. LEA N's students with disabilities will be assessed through the whole school assessment process to set a baseline for progress monitoring throughout the school year. This data will be analyzed alongside assessment and anecdotal data collected during the period of remote learning that took place from March 16, 2020 through May 29, 2020. The data analysis, teacher input and parent input on remote learning effectiveness will allow LEA N to determine the severity of the impact of learning loss due to the ongoing pandemic. Special education data will be compared to general education data to determine the rate of learning loss across all students.
- 8. LEA N will conduct additional outreach to families experiencing homelessness and those in the care of the District of Columbia to ensure that the remote learning plan is accessible. Accommodations including provision of technology or phone-based instruction will be considered to ensure participation and access to learning during this additional period of remote learning.

## **English Learners**

#### Question

- 14. Describe the LEA's plan to serve ELs, including:
  - A description of the EL program model and how it will maintain fidelity across in- person, distance learning and hybrid learning environments;
  - The manner in which the LEA will set language goals across the four language domains of reading, writing, listening, and speaking to advance your EL students' English proficiency;
  - The manner in which the LEA will provide language instruction in reading, writing, listening, and speaking to EL students during distance learning/hybrid learning environments by grade and by proficiency level; and
  - The manner in which the LEA will provide EL students access to academic content by grade and proficiency level.

### Sample Responses

LEA O's responses demonstrated a well-defined program and plan to support English learning in developing English language proficiency and meaningful participation in academic programs. The response addresses how all teachers will be coached to improve their ability to serve English learners (ELs) and how LEA O will provide language access and initiate partnership with families of ELs capacity building.

LEA P began by expressing its values celebrating multilingualism and describing a welcoming environment for EL students. The LEA provided extensive detail on their selected program model (SIOP), EL staffing, and professional development for staff on serving ELs and demonstrated a high level of consideration for the language development needs of EL students.

#### **LEA Detail**

<u>EA Detail</u>		
LEA Name	LEA Response	
LEA O	Identification and screening During distance learning, LEA O will continue to follow OSSE EL policy as it relates to the identification and screening of ELs. Most of our LEA O EL students are returning students or, if new, have previously attended schools in the OSSE system. Therefore, we have their EL data via the Early Access to EL Data Application in Qlik. We are currently using Early Access data to place new students already in the system in the appropriate EL classes within our program. In the case of students who are new to the system, our school enrollment process includes the administration of the Home Language Survey. If potential ELs are identified via the Home Language Survey, we will utilize the WIDA online screening assessment in order to determine the student's EL status and ACCESS level and place them accordingly.	
	Program model	

LEA O EL service model will continue in full operation during SY20-21. Our model consists of a combination of English Language Development (ELD) courses, EL co-taught courses, native/heritage language instruction, and EL case management and capacity-building, as follows:

- ELD courses: We will offer four ELD courses, three in middle school and one in high school, to ELs with ACCESS scores from 1 to 4.4. These classes are specifically designed to support students' academic language development needs in the four language domains: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Based on an analysis of our LEA O curriculum language demands, SY2020-21 ELD units of study will match or complement units of study in ELA, science and social studies classes. This will ensure that ELs are learning the academic language skills that they will need to be successful in their core academic subjects. These classes will be taught online, utilizing synchronous and asynchronous delivery methods and high-quality EL materials created by our teachers based on various curriculum resources.
- EL co-taught courses: Last school year we launched EL-ELA co-taught classes in selected grades with good results. During the 2020-21 school year, based on our analysis of ACCESS and grade data, we are expanding our EL co-taught classes. In total, we will offer 10 co-taught classes in ELA, math, and science in selected grades, based on student linguistic needs. In these classes, content teachers and EL teachers will work together to make sure ELs receive linguistic accommodations and differentiation, during synchronous and asynchronous instruction, so that they can fully access the curriculum and successfully engage in grade-level academic tasks. Co-teaching responsibilities include adapting lessons and assignments and providing small group instruction to ELs and other students with academic language needs during classes and tutoring students, as needed, during EL teachers' office hours on Fridays. We are in the process of developing clearer expectations and training for co-teachers based on lessons learned from last year's implementation, before and after the implementation distance learning, and current research on EL co-teaching,
- Native language instruction: The great majority of our Spanish-speaking ELs will also take intermediate or
  advanced Spanish courses via synchronous and asynchronous instruction. These courses allow our Spanishspeaking ELs to develop academic language in their native or heritage language. Research shows that providing
  rigorous first/heritage language instruction not only fosters high levels of bilingualism, but also allows students
  to develop metalinguistic awareness essential to learning languages.
- EL Case Management: Each of our four EL educators will case manage approximately forty EL students. Each case manager will be assigned certain grade(s) in order to promote collaboration with general education grade level teams. Case managers will:
  - Work with students to analyze their ACCESS data and classes' grades and set SMART language development goals

- Conduct one-on-one check-ins with EL students to monitor their emotional well-being, ensure engagement in online learning and academic progress, and provide/coordinate supports, as needed. Check-ins were piloted last school year with positive results.
- Work with general education and special educators of ELs in their caseload to ensure linguistic accommodation are implemented across the curriculum.
- EL Capacity Building: Finally, we are committed to ensuring that both our EL core team and every educator at LEA O increase their capacity to appropriately serve ELs. With this goal in mind we will implement the following actions:
  - Our Director of Language Learning and one of our instructional coaches will work closely with our EL teachers, via weekly coaching and check-ins, to make sure that ELD and co-taught lessons are both rigorous and accessible to students and utilize language instruction best-practices.
  - o This summer, 4 EL educators and 8 general education teachers across content areas and grade levels are participating in WIDA online self-paced workshops to increase their capacity to serve ELs.
  - EL teachers and the Director of Language Learning will organize PD workshops, co-planning sessions and consultations focused on how to scaffold and differentiate lessons/assignments for ELs, depending on student and teacher needs.

The manner in which the LEA will set language goals across the four language domains of reading, writing, listening, and speaking to advance your EL students' English proficiency;

- In order to facilitate EL case management, communication with students and families, and ensure that each student has clear linguistic goals they are working on, we are in the process of developing an EL Individualized Learning Plan (ILP) template. We are utilizing models provided by OSSE and the DC Public Charter School Board to design the EL ILP that will best fit our students and faculty's needs. This tool will most likely contain the student's ACCESS scores, key background information, language strengths and needs, and SMART language development goals set in collaboration with EL students.
- Each EL teacher will meet individually with the ELs in their case management load during the first four weeks to build relationships, review their latest ACCESS data, identify their strengths and needs, and develop SMART language goals. During the remainder of the year, periodic check-ins will be conducted to monitor students' progress towards their goals and set up action steps to support students.
- Training and a calendar will be provided to EL educators to ensure that the EL Individualized Learning Plan, and the goal setting and monitoring processes are done with fidelity.

The manner in which the LEA will provide language instruction in reading, writing, listening, and speaking to EL students during distance learning/hybrid learning environments by grade and by proficiency level; and

- All students who scored 4.4 or below in ACCESS, in all grades, will receive instruction in social and academic reading, writing, listening and speaking skills in their ELD courses and co-taught classes, as described above.
   Furthermore, our ELD courses will teach lessons aligned to key academic language demands of LEA O's content courses, in the four language domains.
- Additionally, our IB curriculum focused on inquiry-based instruction and using content knowledge in authentic
  ways. Thus, in every content area, units integrate reading, writing, listening and speaking tasks to the benefit
  of ELs.

The manner in which the LEA will provide EL students access to academic content by grade and proficiency level.

- As mentioned above the curriculum for ELD classes are being developed based on the proficiency levels of students and the language demands of their core content classes (ELA, science and social studies). This approach will support student access to academic content.
- Additionally, co-taught classes will ensure all ELs with ACCESS scores 4.4 and below receive linguistic accommodations and small group instruction by co-teaching EL teachers.
- Access to academic content for students with higher English proficiency (4.5 to 5 in ACCESS) will be supported through EL case management and EL capacity building (co-planning, coaching and consultation), as needed.

## Linguistically accessible and culturally competent communication with families

LEA O is committed to communicating with families in a language they understand, to the extent practicable, in compliance with Title I and the Language Access Act. Additionally, our school understands that communication styles and preferences vary across linguistic and cultural communities and educators have to consider these variations in order to effectively communicate and partner with families. Since frequent communication with culturally and linguistically diverse families is even more important in the context of distance learning, we are continuing key language access strategies and adding new ones:

- LEA O will continue to send all key communication to parents in both English and Spanish (distance learning policies, schedules, weekly parent online newsletter, report cards, curriculum updates, etc.) since Spanish is the most common heritage/world language spoken in our school community.
- LEA O will continue providing simultaneous interpretation (or a parallel Spanish meeting option) for key family meetings via Zoom and utilize the DC language line to support verbal translation of all other languages.
- LEA O will develop a Language Access hub where we will clearly outline expectations, protocols and resources for teachers to effectively communicate with parents whose dominant language is not English. Resources will include how to request translation/interpretation services from bilingual staff, how to use technology tools to translate/interpret, and bilingual email templates, among others.

- LEA O will provide training to staff at the beginning of the school year on how to utilize the new Language Access hub, as well as culturally competent strategies to improve communication with culturally and linguistically diverse families.
- At the beginning of the school year, EL team will provide multilingual information to EL families about our LEA
   O EL programming during distance learning.
- During the first three weeks of school, EL Case Managers will send a video to families and call families of the ELs in their caseload to introduce themselves and learn more about them. In addition to student check ins, case managers will check-in with families (via text, phone, video, and/or WhatsApp, meetings) in their preferred language, as needed.

LEA P

LEA P is an innovative new charter school set to open in the 2020-2021 school year with a mission to foster pathways for young women to lead and learn. LEA P is dedicated to ensuring that all students have access to a high-quality education that will prepare them for a multicultural, multilingual, and interconnected global world. Inclusive in LEA P's model are assurances that English learners (ELs) will be adequately prepared and challenged. LEA P leadership has thought deeply and planned intentionally with the needs of English-learning students in mind. From its founding principles, to its instructional model, and community-building efforts, LEA P is committed to providing an equitable and appropriate education for all students.

LEA P is excited to welcome a diverse mix of students when it opens its doors next year; LEA P recognizes that its EL students bring important resources to the learning community. Their expertise in languages other than English as well as life experiences in countries and cultures outside of the US, are important parts of LEA P's informal curriculum. LEA P recognizes that students come to school with a wealth of knowledge and experience on which to build their learning. Moreover, LEA P knows that students' relationships in and amongst each other will provide important opportunities for learning and growing. The LEA P climate will be one where all students are honored and celebrated regardless of home language, race, ethnicity, culture, income, life experience, gender, or sexual orientation.

This supplemental EL plan details LEA P's approach to meeting the specific needs of its EL students through a comprehensive educational approach, instructional resources, remedial support, staffing, and family engagement.

## **Educational Approach**

• Language Acquisition Model: The language acquisition model at LEA P is sheltered content instruction which emphasizes simultaneous language and content instruction. LEA P selected this model because it is the most equitable means of delivering high quality instruction to ELs. Sheltered instruction maintains ELs' inclusion in content area classes so that they have maximum interaction with and exposure to content teachers and

English proficient peers. LEA P staff will be trained on the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP), a research-based model that has shown to be effective with ELs. SIOP has eight interrelated components:

- Lesson Preparation
- Building Background
- Comprehensible Input
- Strategies
- o Interaction
- o Practice/Application
- Lesson Delivery
- Review & Assessment

Implementing SIOP starts during lesson planning where teachers plan with students' language needs in mind in order to consider what vocabulary, grammar, and discourse structures they will need to know in order to access the content. Teachers also assess the need for any additional background knowledge development that is prerequisite to the main lesson. Throughout the lesson, teachers make modifications to their oral language as well as written support to assure that input is comprehensible to all learners. Through sheltered content instruction, ELs have access to the same academic content as their English proficient peers and teachers employ intentional scaffolding to make content accessible to students at all proficiency levels. In the sheltered classroom, teachers strategically employ homogenous and heterogenous groupings according to the learning tasks. Throughout the lesson and after, students are able to practice and apply new concepts in meaningful contexts. Finally, the SIOP model fosters teachers' ability to reflect upon their learning to continually improve their practice and instruction for ELs.

While sheltered instruction is LEA P's primary language acquisition model, the EL teacher may elect to use pullout instruction for ELs on an as-needed basis depending upon her language proficiency level and academic progress. However, every attempt will be made to keep ELs in their content area classes as much as possible. All instructional staff will have opportunity to plan and organize quality content to present in multiple ways for ELs.

- Standards and Curriculum
  - All core content instruction at LEA P will be aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). Additionally, teachers will use the WIDA English Language Proficiency Standards and Can Do Descriptors to understand the academic language demands of their content areas as well as what ELs can be expected to do across different proficiency levels. In addition, when LEA P leadership were selecting curricula, they made sure to select ones that included a specific focus on English language development to ensure that all students would have access to the content.

- International Baccalaureate Career Program
  - The International Baccalaureate (IB), a curriculum aimed at fostering "international mindedness," independent thought, and cultural awareness, aligns with the mission of LEA P to foster pathways for young women to lead and learn. The International Baccalaureate Career Program (IBCP) is a unique hybrid that incorporates the educational vision and principles of IB with a focus on career-related learning. IBCP prepares students to enter apprenticeship programs, employment, and/or post-secondary education. IBCP's foci on language learning, multiculturalism, and global perspectives, makes it a natural fit for students whose life experiences have included learning more than one language and living in more than one country like the lives of many ELs.
  - o Figure 1 contains the <u>WIDA and IB Integration Tool</u>, a resource developed by WIDA that will guide LEA P's approach to integrating the WDIA and IB frameworks. There are many complementary resources between the two frameworks that highlight their shared values. For instance, WIDA's Guiding Principles of Language Development and IB's Language Policy both emphasize that language learning is a process that occurs over time and that multilingualism is an asset rather than a challenge to overcome. (Figure 1 omitted in this document.)
- Advanced Placement Courses
  - o LEA P is dedicated to supporting students' success within a rigorous academic environment. Therefore, in addition to providing IB courses, LEA P will also offer Advanced Placement (AP) coursework. Both IB & AP are focused on deeper learning and critical thinking and share a mutual emphasis on college and career readiness. LEA P believes in the potential of all students and does not want students who are still in the process of learning English to be deterred from engaging in advanced coursework. All LEA P courses will integrate our cross-cutting instructional methods (see below) to make content accessible to ELs.
- Cross-cutting Instructional Methods: LEA P teachers will employ several cross-cutting instructional methods in their classes with the necessary accommodations needed for their EL students. These include:
  - o Inquiry-based learning -- a student-centered approach to learning where students drive the exploration of content and teachers serve as facilitators of the exploratory process. In implementing inquiry-based learning with an EL, teachers will take the time to understand her interests and existing background knowledge on the topic. The teacher will also scaffold the inquiry with her through the use of model questions, question stems, resources in the ELs' home language and English, visuals, and videos and other media. Throughout her inquiry, the EL will also be encouraged to use bilingual dictionaries and talk to experts on her topic who speak her home language. While all learning products will be completed in

- English, ELs will be supported in using their home language to facilitate their learning as needed and using it as a bridge towards expression in English.
- O Discussion-based learning -- Paideia Seminar is an approach, similar to the Socratic Seminar, that uses open-ended questions about a text. To facilitate meaningful participation for ELs in class discussions, teachers will provide scaffolded texts to aid comprehension. In addition, ELs will have access to written versions of the discussion questions and sample sentence starters to use in forming their responses. ELs will also have opportunities to practice their responses with a peer or Graduate Fellow before engaging in a whole class discussion.
- Service learning at LEA P will provide an opportunity for meaningful, experiential education for all students, including ELs. In considering potential service-learning opportunities, LEA P staff, in collaboration with EL students, will consider ELs' strengths and assets, including their language skills.
- o EL methods -- Once trained in SIOP, all teachers will be able to implement methods that allow ELs to access and comprehend course content. These methods include, but are not limited to, language scaffolding, making connections to ELs' home languages, access to translation tools, peer learning, realia, visuals, graphic organizers, multimodal representation, increased wait time, and connections to prior knowledge. Math teachers will ensure that students, especially those designated as ELs will simultaneously acquire the required academic language of mathematics and mathematical concepts. This will be accomplished through many of the same strategies employed in English Language Arts -- preteaching vocabulary, using glossaries, representing language visually, providing multiple representations of math concepts, and providing opportunities to read and write about math.

#### Instructional Resources

O All content teachers, with the guidance and possible assistance from the EL teacher, will be responsible for modifying their classroom materials according to the proficiency levels and learning needs of their ELs. In aligning with the CCSS, WIDA, and SIOP, teachers will make sure that ELs are exposed to the same content as their English dominant peers but have the necessary supports needed to support their language development in tandem with their academic learning. This can include, but will not be limited to, additional background information, glossaries or glossed words, visuals, videos or other media, and translation. All students at LEA P will have access to an online language learning application (e.g., Duolingo) to advance their language skills.

## • Remedial Support

 LEA P will implement Response to Intervention (RtI) as a means for identifying, monitoring, and intervening when students need additional support, including ELs. The RtI process will function within LEA P's systematic

- approach to collaborative data inquiry for school improvement -- Data Wise. Data Wise is a structured process for analyzing student data that follows four steps: (1) plan for data meetings, (2) discuss data, (3) review findings, and (4) commit to action.
- o LEA P believes that high-quality teaching, rigorous instruction, and differentiation are essential for all students. LEA P will take a proactive approach to intervention by providing instruction within a Universal Design for Learning model that contains appropriate support for all students. For ELs, this includes the crosscutting instructional methods mentioned above. If a student is not demonstrating sufficient progress, the student support team will, upon reviewing data, identify needs, create a plan for intervention, implement the plan, and track the student's progress during implementation. If the student continues to show limited progress, the student will receive increasingly intensive supports (moving from Tier 2-3). Figure 2 contains a list of sample tiered supports within RtI. As the student demonstrates adequate progress, the team will either continue supports or fade out the supports if the student makes progress. If the student fails to respond to interventions, the school can make a referral for additional evaluation. Throughout the process, families will be notified of suggested interventions and invited to be part of action planning and progress monitoring conversations. LEA P will ensure intervention plans include explicit timelines, resources, and monitoring schedules to ensure the team can quickly identify struggling students and effectively measure their progress. (Figure 2 omitted in this document)
- o in addition, LEA P recognizes that newcomer ELs and those with emerging English proficiency may need further support to be successful in the classroom. Principally, LEA P will foster a school culture where all are welcome, differences are seen as integral parts of everyone's learning, and staff are knowledgeable about students' home lives and cultures. LEA P leadership will assess newcomers' needs on a case by case basis but will have multiple resources to pull form in meeting her needs. Academic resources include, but are not limited to, tutoring and in class support from a graduate fellow, translation assistance, peer buddies, pull out ESL instruction.

#### Staffing

- o LEA P will plan to open with at least a .5 EL Teacher but we will revisit this based on actual student enrollment. The EL teacher will support content area teachers in implementing SIOP including coteaching, modeling, and/or coaching, as needed. Depending upon students' proficiency levels and needs, she may also do occasional pullout with ELs. In addition, she will oversee LEA P's graduate fellows who can also provide in class support for ELs as well as small group or one-on-one instruction. The student services coordinator will take care of the administrative load related to EL documentation and paperwork.
- To fully implement sheltered instruction, staff and leadership will receive training on the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP). Content teachers, instructional leaders, and the EL teacher will

attend this training together in order to foster a shared understanding and framework from which to approach EL instruction. Sheltered instruction may be delivered from a content teacher or through a coteaching model between the EL and content teachers. In the instance that the content teacher is instructing in a sheltered environment, the EL teacher will support the teacher by co-planning, reviewing lesson plans and materials, and debriefing lessons. As new staff are hired at LEA P, leadership will assess their need for SIOP training. Ideally, the EL teacher could provide onsite follow on or induction training for LEA P staff.

- o In addition to SIOP training, LEA P staff will also receive training on the WIDA's English language development standards so that they can use these standards for planning, instruction, and assessment.
- o In order to stay abreast of developments in the field of EL education, LEA P will support its EL teacher in attending local and national conferences and training, including OSSE's annual Multilingual Learner Conference, the Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) Convention, and the Washington Area TESOL Conference. LEA P leadership will also create opportunities for the EL teacher to share take-aways with other staff from these conferences

## **Technology**

NOTE: OSSE did not provide formal comments to public charter LEAs for these questions.

#### Question

15. Describe the LEA's policy for technology use during distance learning, including:

- Expectations for student access to devices and technical training;
- The manner in which the LEA will assess student/family technology needs;
- The supports that will be provided to students who do not have access to internet or devices due to circumstances beyond their control;
- The plan for replacing/repairing devices;
- Expectations for student access to internet and safeguarding personally identifiable information (PII);
- What limitations, if any, you are putting on LEA device use at home (e.g., prohibiting social media, video games, etc.) and how you are enforcing them; and
- If/how the school's technology policy differs by grade level.

## Sample Responses

The response from LEA Q was thorough and included a commitment to support virtual learning 100% of the time, even if in-person options become available. In addition, the LEA demonstrated was conscious in noting that digital experiences should ideally include developmental considerations in addition to more straightforward technical support needs (e.g., "We are also intentional about providing learners the opportunity to develop their fine motor skills through learning how to use a keyboard.").

LEA R content included information on how the LEA intends to build emotional supports systems during distance learning in addition to addressing IT logistics. The LEA also included good descriptions of the website and content blocking policies and hardware and software measures they have taken to ensure student internet security.

### **LEA Detail**

LEA Name	LEA Response
LEA Q	Commitment and Expectations  LEA Q is committed to the effective use of technology to enhance the quality of learning and minimize any potential barriers families may encounter when accessing LEA Q learning platforms. As a new school opening its doors for the
	first time, LEA Q's technology planning has altered significantly to address the current COVID-19 landscape.  Previously, LEA Q did not intend to rely heavily on the use of technology in the classrooms, rather as a compliment to learning. Additionally, individual use of technology was to be determined based on each learner's customized learning plan, developed in conjunction with each family, to establish goals and how learners would reach those

goals. As such, LEA Q was planning to equip each classroom with 3-5 Chromebooks with additional capacity for MAP testing grades.

Currently, LEA Q is committed to ensuring equitable access to technology resources for all learners as we consider potential virtual learning and at-home use of technology. Even if we offer in-person options, LEA Q will provide virtual learning 100% of the time. As such, LEA Q expects each learner to have access to a device and to the internet in order to access learning. We will work with each respective family to ensure they are equipped with the necessary materials to do so.

#### **Needs Assessment and Distribution**

As a new LEA, all LEA Q technology will be newly purchased, functioning optimally, and under warranty.

- Staff technology
  - All LEA Q full-time staff will be issued a new windows-based laptop on their first day. These laptops will be
    equipped with Google Suite, which allows for central administration. This central administration is key to
    regulate school-owned technology. More importantly, we can push out necessary applications that each
    staff member will use to execute LEA Q programming.
- Staff Training
  - o Professional Development for all staff begins August 3. During this three-week period before the first day of school (August 31), staff will be trained in proper administration of all curricula and online platforms. As a school staff, we will train in how to lead remote learning.
- Learner technology
  - LEA Q is using Chromebooks for our hardware needs. These devices are compatible with the online platforms and applications that we will be using for remote learning. We are also intentional about providing learners the opportunity to develop their fine motor skills through learning how to use a keyboard.
  - o We will start the year with 55 Chromebooks, 15 of which will have a touchscreen for our youngest population. This is a good start that will enable us to immediately address any device needs. We will also assess the needs of our entire enrolled population through this <a href="Google Form">Google Form</a>. In addition to collecting information on which families need devices and the internet, it will also detail the various options to obtain said technology while explaining LEA Q support through this process. We will send this form out to all enrolled families and use it as part of enrollment intake going forward. We are offering families the option to purchase their own device- computer or internet hotspot (through special corporate or CBO)

offers) or to borrow an LEA Q device, through agreeing to LEA Q's technology use commitment to proper usage and liability. We are considering a cost sharing amount to make it easier for families to purchase their own technology and facilitate the purchase of the device. Internet Essentials, through Xfinity, offers qualifying customers inexpensive monthly internet and options to purchase inexpensive computers. LEA Q has formed a partnership with <a href="PCS for People">PCS for People</a> (based out of Minnesota) to procure Wi-Fi hotspots (and desktops) and internet at reduced prices. Families can purchase on their own (through LEA Q's platform page) or work with the school to purchase on their behalf.

## Learner Training

O Where possible, learners will be expected to retrieve hotspots and devices at the school, where they will also receive training and expectations for proper use and care of equipment. For learners and families not able to retrieve equipment from the school, arrangements will be made for shipping or dropping off the equipment directly to the family. Training, expectations and care of equipment will be provided virtually in such cases.

## Replacing and repairing devices

• Every device that LEA Q has purchased includes Accidental Damage Protection warranty through the manufacturer with next day shipping. Our goal is to have extra Chromebooks for immediate exchanges in case a device needs to be repaired. We will ask that families bring their broken equipment to the school for any drop-off or exchange. LEA Q will have a device tracking list and a check-in/out list for the replacement devices. We will have a thorough technology use form that all parents and learners must agree to and sign. This agreement will commit to proper use of the device and accept liability in the case of misuse or loss. We are still working through how to properly hold families accountable. Each Chromebook device will be centrally managed by school administration. As such, we are confident we can limit any misuse of software by only allowing for educational and LEA Q-related functions. Because of our tracking diligence, we will be able to keep track of repeat needs to repair or replace a device. In a situation in which one family needs a device repaired more than twice, we will call an in-person meeting to get to the root of the issue and determine where we can adequately aim our support to encourage proper device usage.

# Personally identifiable information (PII)

• Devices issued to students by the school will have pre-installed software that is administered centrally and prevents students from accessing prohibited sites and allows school personnel to remotely login to the device, update its software or disable the device entirely.

#### Limitations

### Equipment

As previously stated, LEA Q will have control over use of software and any other device use. We will allow
hardware to be used by other family members as related to the education of their learner. If a piece of
equipment goes missing, a family's responsibility is to inform the school as soon as possible.

### Software

Software will require log in credentials. New software will not be allowed to be downloaded by a family. New software not purchased by the school will not be allowed onto the computer. We will restrict the use of the internet to specific sites for educational programming, unless school leadership determines it is appropriate to allow for full use. In such a case, we will limit sites on a case-by-case basis.

### Training

Staff training will be held during Summer PD in August. Family training will be held virtually during our recurring School Opening Conversations with families. Learner training will be held at some point upon distributing devices to families. If a family needs support, there are many avenues. Their "classroom" teacher is the first line of support. Otherwise, they can call the principal or director of operations or anyone else on school leadership.

#### LEA R Overview

LEA R is committed to the effective use of technology to enhance both the quality of student learning and the efficiency of school operations.

LEA R has always been a technologically minded school. The School understands that school-owned-and-operated technology is a necessary part of the learning process for all students especially during the 2020-2021 school year. This technology policy assumes that students will be engaging in classes 100% virtually/remotely through November 6, 2020 and in a hybrid education model afterwards. Both models require all students to have a school Chromebook and mobile hotspot. LEA R is committed to equitable access to technology resources necessary for learning for all students. Students (and where applicable, their families) must sign and submit a *Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety* form prior to receiving their equipment and devices.

Beyond defining LEA R's general policy on providing equitable access to technology and ensuring its safe use, this policy provides a series of steps to ensure a Return to School Technology Plan is in place. It includes training and support for teachers to adapt virtual learning skills for the classroom. Additionally, it will provide training in data

and cyber security to assist staff in understanding the risks and responsibilities associated with the new learning environment.

## Equipment, Software, Support, and Training Expectation for Students and Staff

LEA R will provide all students and staff with the necessary technology equipment, software, and training to fully participate in distance learning as indicated in the information below. LEA R conducted a detailed needs analysis of its technology program from the 2019-2020 school year in order to develop a comprehensive technology plan to meet the needs of all of its stakeholders in the 2020-2021 school year. Based on the 2019-2020 needs analysis, a majority of LEA R's students relied on school technology to engage in the school environment during the school closure caused by the pandemic. Therefore, the School has a 2:1 Chromebook program for all students to ensure students have access to continuous learning both at home and at the school during the hybrid phase. During the 100% virtual/remote phase all students will receive a Chromebook and internet hotspot. As the school services grades 6-8, all students will follow the same technology policy.

#### Equipment

All students of LEA R will receive a School Chromebook to take home with him or her the week of August 10<sup>th</sup>, and as needed, a hotspot and a calculator. Beyond the school Chromebook that will be kept at each student's home, the School will provide a Chromebook in the student's classroom for each student who participates in on-site learning. Each Chromebook will be set up and customized for each student and will be password protected so that the student's information is secure. Other family members are not permitted to use the School's Chromebook for personal use.

All LEA R staff will receive a School Laptop, School iPad for all teachers, and as needed, a wireless mouse prior to the start of school on August 31, 2020. Teachers will also have the option of receiving a document camera if they elect to use this device.

### **Software**

All students and staff will have access to the following software using school-created, and maintained, log-in and passwords. At no time will anyone outside of the school's community be able to access the software.

The following table shows the various software being used at LEA R for in-person and distance learning programs:

Software	Who has access?
PowerSchool	Students and Staff (only select LEA R administrators have Admin access
	to PowerSchool)

iReady, IXL, NewsELA, Lexia180, Fountas & Pinnell, Buzzmath, GetEpic, LearningAlly	Students and Staff (student records will be stored securely and only accessible by admin)
LEA R Email and Google Suite	Students and Staff (logins will be customized for each user; Google Admin is centrally located to protect student and staff privacy)
ANET, NWEA, Nearpod	Students and Staff (Student testing information is secure)
	Staff (only select LEA R staff will have access to Google Remote Desktop)
Chrome Extensions: Chrome Vox, Mercury Reader, and Google Dictionary	Students
Hapara	Select LEA R administrators have access to Hapara - used to monitor student web access and to limit which websites students have access to
Google Remote Desktop	Select LEA R technology team members will have access to Google Remote Desktop to provide remote troubleshooting support for students

# **Training**

LEA R is providing training on all equipment and software for students and staff members.

## Staff Members

- o Training will be held between the weeks of August 3, 2020 and August 31, 2020. Staff training will include, but not be limited to:
- o What teachers should be troubleshooting during class, such as:
  - Log-in information for students
  - Finding and accessing documents on any used platforms
  - Assist students to log into Zoom, Google Classroom or Nearpod
  - Applicable information about student hardware

LEA R Professional D and Teacher Trai	•
Pre-Service Training (Aug 3rd, 2020-30th, 2020)	In-Service Training (Every Wednesday)
Distance/Hybrid Learning Model and Teacher Expectations Google Classroom Training Instruction Video Creation Training/Norm Setting Nearpod Training/Webinars Zoom Pro Training: Video Conference Norms & Expectations Swivl Training: The Hybrid Teaching Model ELA: iReady, IXL, NewsELA, CommonLit, Actively Learn Math: iReady, IXL, Buzzmath, SS: TCI Training Reading: Lexia, NewsELA, F&P LII Service Learning: SPED: Learning Ally, NWEA MAP, EasyIEP Planning for Social-Emotional Digital Transformation Building Community in the Digital Classroom Cross-Content Collaboration & Planning Incorporating Free Online Resources Operations and Health: COVID-19 OSSE Training, Health and Operations Trainings Family Support and Communications Attendance Training	<ul> <li>Testing</li> <li>NWEA MAP Testing Procedures</li> <li>NWEA MAP Learning Continuum PD</li> <li>ANet Testing Procedure</li> <li>ANet Questioning vs. WG Formative Assessment Standard Aligned Questioning</li> <li>i-Ready testing</li> <li>Ongoing Health and Operations Trainings as they related to the school's COVID-19 response</li> <li>Family Support and Communications Ongoing Training</li> <li>Instructional Best Practices</li> <li>Danielson Topics for Developing Instructional Mastery</li> <li>Formative Assessment Data Analysis and Planning</li> <li>Data Driven Instruction</li> <li>Interdisciplinary Best Practices</li> <li>Cross Content Planning and Collaboration</li> <li>Teacher Student Conferencing</li> <li>Transformative Instructional Practices: Growing the Digital Learning Experiencing</li> <li>Anticipating and Attaching Learning Gaps (pre- and post-COVID 19)</li> <li>Digital School Culture</li> <li>Digital Classroom Management</li> <li>Digital Communication with Parents</li> </ul>

 Equipment and software training will occur between August 13<sup>th</sup> and August 30th, prior to school starting on August 31st. Student and family trainings will include, but are not limited to:

LEA R Parent Training				
and Community Engagement Plan				
August 13th through August 30th				
Workshop/ Session Topic Purpose and Goals				
Welcome Back & Welcome Forward	<ul> <li>General Welcome and overview basic</li> <li>Questions and Answers</li> <li>Introduction to the parent orientation schedule &amp; supports and materials</li> </ul>			
Student Technology and Systems	<ul> <li>How to properly care and use the equipment</li> <li>Quick troubleshooting at home</li> <li>How to submit a ticket</li> <li>Proper conduct online and using LEA R's systems</li> </ul>			
Surviving Middle School: What to Expect in Your New Grade Level       6th Grade Session      7th Grade Session      8th Grade Session	<ul> <li>Meet and greet with grade level teachers</li> <li>Insight into the year</li> <li>Grade level culture norms and expectations</li> </ul>			
Our Learning Management Systems Explained	<ul> <li>Explaining and framing our Learning Management System</li> <li>Outlining our online platforms</li> <li>Explaining Key Terms/Norming Language</li> </ul>			
Hybrid Immersion: A Day in the Life of a Scholar	· A live demonstration of a condensed school day to share the look and feel of onsite/hybrid asynchronous learning			
Google Classroom, Nearpod, IXL and iReady 101	<ul> <li>A visual guide through the primary online platforms that students will encounter</li> <li>Discussion of Expectations</li> <li>Questions &amp; Answers</li> <li>Where to find resources and IT or Tech Support</li> </ul>			
Remote Learning 101: Tips and Tricks to Support Students with the Accountability of Self-Motivated Learning	Discuss and share with parents ways to support scholars with lesson activities that are student driven and student motivated			

Healthy Social Habits & Behaviors	<ul> <li>Demonstrations of how to practice safe routines behaviors while in the school building for onsite learning.</li> </ul>
Testing, Assessments, Grading	<ul> <li>Overview of how these systems will look and how parents can stay aware of upcoming important dates.</li> </ul>
Building Social Bonds with Physical Distance	· What parents and students can look forward to this year regarding school culture's virtual transformation and limitations
Social-Emotional Support Systems in DL	<ul> <li>What to look forward to this year with SEL and therapy services.</li> <li>Best SEL practices for our students attending virtually</li> </ul>

Additionally, the School will be recording the training topics and the recordings will be available on-demand on the School's website.

The School will communicate to staff, students and families to contact the Technology Team for any needed technical assistance through emails, phone calls, website, print resources, and the School's app.

If needed, a member of the Technology Team will provide additional training. The Technology Team consists of the Director of Distance Learning, Director of Operations, Business and Facilities Manager, and the Special Projects Assistant. If replacement equipment is needed, the School has additional equipment that can be swapped out to ensure there is no delay in learning.

## Review & Assessment: Assessing Need

Within this section, LEA R will describe how we assessed the technology needs of our students and staff to ensure that all stakeholders can successfully participate in distance learning.

## **Equipment**

LEA R has reviewed staff equipment to make sure the equipment is in working order. LEA R conducted a staff technology survey in Spring 2020 to determine the technology needs of teachers and staff. For those teachers whose computers are not in working order, the teachers will receive a new laptop and iPad when they return to school in August. Each classroom will also receive a Swivl, which will be used along with the iPad to livestream the classes (See Instructional Delivery Plan).

Additionally, LEA R conducted a student technology survey in Spring 2020 to determine the technology needs of students. Based on the survey responses, the School now has a 2:1 Chromebook program for all students when

students resume in-person classes, so students will have a School Chromebook both at home and at school. The School is keeping extra equipment on site for students and staff if they need to swap out their equipment. The School also has hotspots available to those students who do not have reliable internet at home and will be sent home with a hotspot along with their LEA R Chromebook. All students will have access to a hotspot.

LEA R will continue to contact parents regarding the tech-related services and supports they need throughout the school year. Parents will receive an initial tech check in the week of August 31, 2020 (first week of school). Below is a chart outlining how the school will receive feedback from families/guardians throughout the school year.

Date of	Focus of Survey	How Parents will be Contacted	How Data will be Used
Survey			
10/12/20-	<ul> <li>Inquiring about issues</li> </ul>	· Email	· School will make adjustments
10/23/20	regarding technology or internet	· Text blast	to the technology plan based on
	· Inquiring about additional	· Newsletter	feedback
	needs and supports	· Phone Calls	<ul> <li>Technology team members</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Inquiring about future</li> </ul>		will develop new tutorials to meet
	tutorials parents find necessary		families/guardian
	· Inquiring about needs and		· Will inform the hybrid
	concerns in a digital teaching		teaching model
	model		
1/11/21-	<ul> <li>Inquiring about issues</li> </ul>	· Email	· School will make adjustments
1/22/21	regarding technology or internet	· Text blast	to the technology plan based on
	<ul> <li>Inquiring about additional</li> </ul>	· Newsletter	feedback
	needs and supports	· Phone Calls	<ul> <li>Technology team members</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Inquiring about future</li> </ul>		will develop new tutorials to meet
	tutorials parents find necessary		families/guardian
	<ul> <li>Inquiring about the repair</li> </ul>		· Team will review the support
	and technological support		and repair portion of the policy
	system at the school		
5/31-6/30	· Receiving feedback on the	· Email	· Will inform 2021-2022
	use of technology and tech	· Text blast	technology plan
	support throughout the year	· Newsletter	
		· Phone Calls	

· Rating of our distance	· Will be given the survey when	
learning or hybrid learning	they return the technology at the	
program	end of the school year	

#### Software

Based on LEA R's needs analysis from 2019-2020 school year and plan for the 2020-2021 school year, the School has determined that the following software will be used to facilitate teaching and learning:

- Software to Facilitate Student's Remote/Hybrid Classes
  - ZoomPro all teachers have a ZoomPro account and will be livestreaming his/her class using ZoomPro for those students at home. ZoomPro will also be used to facilitate teacher office hours and student tutorial sessions.
  - Google Suite all students and staff have an LEA R email, and access to the Google Suite for Google Docs, Google Forms, Google Sheets, Google Slides, and Google Classroom. Google Classroom is the School's main Learning Management System (LMS). All teacher lessons and student assignments will be housed in Google Classroom.
  - Hapara software used to ensure students are actively engaged in the lesson and activities during their scheduled classes. Students are unable to access websites and software that are not pre-programmed into the class time.
  - o Google Remote Desktop software loaded onto every Chromebook to provide assistance to students if they are having issues with their equipment.
- Student Information System
  - o PowerSchool– PowerSchool is the School's Student Information System. PowerSchool houses student demographics, grades, and attendance data.
  - o All teachers, staff, students, and families will have access to PowerSchool
  - o iReady- Students utilize iReady in their Math and English classrooms at least once a week, which provides targeted online lessons for each student. The School also utilizes iReady as a diagnostic tool to see where to place each student in their cohorts.
  - o IXL- students utilize IXL in math, science and social studies. This program provides students with targeted online lessons to each student.
  - o Fountas and Pinnell is a program that provides leveled texts to students that can be read in tandem with Zoom.

- GetEpic- students will use GetEpic as a reading platform for students to choose engaging informational and literary texts and books remotely. Teachers can assign books and can use the program to track students reading.
- Learning Ally- Students and staff will use Learning Ally as a reading platform where students are able to
  access books based on their Lexile level. Teachers can create bookshelves and can assign books to
  students. Learning Ally contains all the books we will use in the ELA class based on our Engage NY
  curriculum.
- Lexia- Lexia is a reading intervention software that addresses the development of oral language, reading, spelling, and writing skills for students who are learning English or need remedial support. Students using Lexia will develop fundamental reading skills with the rest of their classmates and receive student-driven and teacher-directed personalized instruction.
- NewsELA- Using this software, students can read current events that have been adjusted to meet their Lexile level. Teachers can assign standards-based quizzes to the news articles to check for student understanding.
- o Nearpod Staff will be utilizing Nearpod for interactive lessons with the students, as well as using the functionality of quizzes for the students.
- Buzzmath- Students will use Buzzmath in their math classes, which will provide them with differentiated instruction within the math classes. Math teachers will use this software to provide collaborative lessons with differentiation to the students.
- O Duolingo- Language learning platform that will be used to aid student learning in LEA R's Spanish language class.
- Chrome Vox- This is a free screen reader that brings the speed, simplicity, and security of Chromebooks to users with visual impairments.
- o Mercury Reader- Is an extension for Chrome that removes ads and distractions, leaving only text and images for a clean and consistent reading view on every site.
- Google Dictionary- This dictionary allows students to view the complete definition of any word or phrase and store the word in a bank to practice later. Students can also translate words into a language of their choice.

#### Assessment Software

 NWEA MAP- The NWEA MAP is an adaptive assessment that increases or decreases in rigor of content based on student performance. MAP assessment data provides insight into how students are tracking in relation to the PARCC assessment and places students on a learning continuum to show next steps for student growth.

- o Achievement Network (ANet)- ANet will be used as a formal assessment platform that will be used in the ELA classroom.
- o I-Ready- I-Ready will be utilized to gain student diagnostic information in ELA and Math and for tracking of student academic growth.

#### PBIS Software

DeansList - The school will use DeansList to track SWPBIS. All staff have a DeansList account which will be
used to track daily contact with students, as well as being used as the School's behavior tracking system
for students who are participating in in-person learning.

# • Student Security Software

- o GoGuardian All student Chromebooks have GoGuardian installed to track student activity. This software will also be used in the event of the School not receiving the device back at the end of the year so the School can track the location of the device.
- Hapara This software is used at the School to limit which websites the students can access throughout the day.

#### **Training**

When students and parents/guardians pick up the devices and other necessary equipment prior to the first day of School, a member of the Technology Team will provide a training guide and links to recorded training sessions on proper use and care of the equipment and devices. If students or parents/guardians are unable to pick up the equipment from the school, a member of the Technology Team will coordinate with the parent/guardian on how to best deliver the equipment, as well as providing a video recorded training along with a live ZoomPro support session. The Technology Team will also provide on-site scheduled appointments for individual students and parents/guardians for training on the equipment, as well as pre-recorded training videos housed on the School's website. For more information on what will be covered in the training sessions, please see the Training section under Equipment, Software, Support, Training Expectation for Students and Staff.

# Support Provided for Students without Access to Internet or Devices

Based on multiple parent/guardian surveys (administered in March 2020 and July 2020), students without adequate internet or devices (Chromebooks) were identified. All students who needed a Chromebook were provided with a Chromebook in the Spring of 2020 and a mobile hotspot if needed.

During the expansion of distance learning in the 2019-2020 school year, the School overhauled the technology program to ensure all students have access to the required devices for distance learning. LEA R has a 2:1 student Chromebook program for the 2020-2021 school year. Students will be given a School Chromebook to keep at home for all virtual learning. Additionally, students who are receiving in-person instruction when it is able to resume will have a dedicated School Chromebook that will be left at the school. This allows all students to have access to the necessary resources to experience a successful distance learning education.

Additionally, in July 2020, parents were surveyed regarding their preferred mode of learning for their student (100% in person, hybrid, or 100% virtual). Through this survey, incoming students without internet access or technology were identified. Those without internet access and devices will be provided a mobile hotspot to give internet access when the parent/guardian picks up the School Chromebook. As noted, all students will begin the school year as virtual students.

Parents/guardians and students will pick up hotspots and devices at the school where they will also receive training and expectations for proper use and care of the equipment. For students and families not able to retrieve equipment from the school, arrangements will be made for dropping the equipment off to the student. As previously noted, student and family training will be covered upon Chromebook pick up prior to the summer bridge program. The training will include proper use and care, accessing software and troubleshooting, expectations, and care of equipment. During the virtual learning model, the School will provide virtual training sessions via Zoom and recorded virtual training sessions will be hosted on the School's website for on-demand access. Once the School can move to its hybrid phase, the School will provide in-person trainings following all health guidance and regulations.

# Replacing/Repairing Equipment

- Equipment
  - LEA R will have loaner equipment available for families and staff on an as-needed basis.
    - If any of the School's equipment is broken, the parent/guardian must return the device on-site at the school. This will allow the School to provide a loaner device immediately so there is no lag time in learning. However, the parent/guardian must schedule a time to come up to the building in accordance with the School's visitor policy.
    - In the event that a device is loaned, the parent/guardian must sign an Acknowledgement and Waiver form. Once the form is completed and signed, the parent/guardian will be given the loaner device for their student to use.

- In the event that a device has been damaged due to misuse (i.e., eating over the computer, dropping the computer, accessing unapproved websites, etc), the parent/guardian is financially responsible to replace the device. This is the same policy for the initial device the School will be giving to each student.
- In the event of a student having issues with a computer, a member of the Technology Team will provide telephonic troubleshooting to check if it is the equipment or software malfunctioning, or if it is a lack of training on the computer/software usage. If it is due to a lack of training or software not working, the School's staff will be able to log in remotely on the student Chromebook to fix the device. However, if it is due to the equipment malfunctioning, the School will be able to provide a loaner device for the student to use.

#### Software

- o If it is determined that software is malfunctioning instead of the equipment, LEA R's staff will troubleshoot remotely. However, if it is not possible for LEA R staff to troubleshoot the issue with the software, the School will partner with the contracted IT Provider for remote support.
- O The School's IT Provider will create the LEA R student accounts and passwords and ensure that these items are private. The passwords will be kept on a secure spreadsheet that will be shared with select members of the school staff. The students will be given their username and password before school starts, during the weeks of August 10<sup>th</sup> and August 17<sup>th</sup>. If a student forgets his or her password, the parent/guardian can contact the Technology Team, and a designated LEA R staff member will be able to unlock the student's or staff's account and provide instructions on how to reset a password.
- If a student or staff member is locked out of his or her Google account, the staff member or parent/guardian should contact the Technology Team by submitting a ticket. In the instance that it is software that LEA R staff do not have access to, the IT Provider will be contacted to unlock accounts by LEA R staff.

### **Training**

- LEA R will provide an initial training between August 10<sup>th</sup> and August 21<sup>st</sup> for parents and students when they are picking up their school Chromebook and other devices. For those families who experience repeated and/or severe issues with the equipment or software, the family will issue a ticket and the School will partner with the IT Provider to provide additional training or support.
- Staff will receive their training on equipment and software during the weeks of August 3<sup>rd</sup>through August 24<sup>th</sup> during Professional Development and Training Weeks

O If students or staff are experiencing any issues with equipment or software, they should contact the Technology Team. If there is an issue that the Technology Team cannot fix, the School will contact the IT Provider.

Families will also receive a chart to help guide them the repair process.

### Expectations for student access to internet and safeguarding personally identifiable information (PII)

The School has a robust system in place to ensure student access and personally identifiable information are safeguarded and protected. All school devices that are issued to students will have pre-installed software that prevents students from accessing prohibited sites and also allows school staff or the IT Provider to remotely login to the device, update its software or disable the device entirely. Additionally, the School has various websites and content blocked, as well as a firewall to provide additional content filtering, intrusion protection, gateway antivirus and malware scanning and protection.

LEA has also blocked certain categories, domains, and URLs to protect students.

The School also utilizes DocuSign for the signing and completion of documents, which is encrypted and only accessible by select School staff and select parents.

# Student Learning Limitations on School-Provided Devices

- Equipment
  - Students will be able to only use the school equipment for school purposes and shall not be used for any non-academic purpose by the student or other family members. The School uses the following systems to ensure the school equipment is being used for school purposes (for a full list of blocked domains, URLs, and categories, please see the Expectations for student access to internet and safeguarding personally identifiable information (PII) section):
    - Hapara used to set which websites and apps the students can use each day, and during specific times.
  - The School will set the times to go through the end of the day to ensure the equipment is not being used for non-academic purposes. Utilizing Hapara allows the School to monitor the use of the devices.
    - GoGuardian used to filter out content the students are not to be accessing, such as malicious sites.
       This software is also used to locate a device if it is reported missing.
    - SonicWall used to filter out content and websites the students and staff are not allowed to access, which includes but is not limited to: gaming sites, social media, and shopping.

• If the student or family loses a piece of LEA R equipment, the parent/guardian is financially responsible to replace the equipment. They must contact the School to inform the staff members that the equipment is missing or damaged.

#### Software

- O Within the student technology policy, LEA R has clearly outlined the sites that are prohibited/limited to students. LEA R uses Hapara, a software that limits the ability of students to access sites that are not registered/approved by the school and has contracted with DNS, a technology provider, to ensure that all Chromebooks that students have access to only access appropriate/educational sites. A sample of prohibited sites have been listed in the above section.
- Sites that are approved daily include, but are not limited to i-Ready, Achievement Network, Learning Ally, GetEpic, and all sites connected to LEA R's textbooks/curriculum.
- School software must be accessed by log-in credentials, which will be provided to staff and students prior to the first day of school. No software utilized by the School is accessible without log-in credentials.
- All laptops have GoGuardian installed, which allows the Technology Team to monitor the location of the device, especially in the event of the device being lost, as well as additional content filtering to ensure students are accessing approved sites.
- At no time will students or family members be able to download software onto the school equipment.
   Additionally, since the School utilizes Hapara to limit which websites that can be accessed, students or family members will not be able to access additional software or websites on the school equipment.

### **Training**

- Training on the proper use of school equipment will be provided to students and families the week of August 17<sup>th</sup> during summer bridge. Staff will be trained during the weeks of August 3<sup>rd</sup>through August 24<sup>th</sup>during the annual Professional Development weeks.
- If students or parents/guardians need support in using the equipment provided by the School, they should contact

## **Family Engagement**

NOTE: OSSE did not provide formal comments to public charter LEAs for these questions.

#### Question

16. Describe the LEA's policy for partnering with families and communicating about continuous learning and school operations.

- How often families can anticipate hearing from the school, and through which methods of communication;
- How you are soliciting and incorporating student/family input early and repeatedly about continuous learning;
- How you will communicate about unanticipated facility closures and the health/safety of the school community;
- How you will share expectations and training for family participation in their student's learning, including trainings for technology;
- How you will facilitate introductions to new teachers and classmates at the beginning of the school year;
- How the LEA will ensure that students and families are given routine feedback on their work both formally (e.g., report cards and progress reports) and informally (e.g., graded work and comments)

## Sample Responses

In addition to standard or more general communication, the response from LEA S committed to universal bilingual translation of written communication. Most notably, the LEA plans to provide all families with quarterly curriculum guides to share the topics and concepts to be covered in each week of instruction, weekly supply lists, and supplies for families in need.

LEA T plan for family engagement was notable in its process for staff home visits to be conducted in addition to standard weekly communications when it is deemed safe and appropriate under public health guidance. Additionally, the LEA's plan included a strategy for contacting families requiring more intensive engagement and a structured system for leveraging case management staff. Per the application, case managers will each support a cohort of 6-15 students for whom they will coordinate and centralize messaging and hold both daily and weekly check-ins with progress report and feedback mechanisms.

#### LEA Detail

LEA Name	LEA Response	
LEA S	Consistent and clear communication with students and families is vital for supporting the community of students and families and for maintaining the health and safety of the school community. Communication to students and families will happen across many media: posted signage in the building, access to resources and information on the school website, and on-demand notification through social media channels and individual outreach.  General School-wide Communication Website	

LEA S's website serves as the location for general information about the school as well as specific details on the program offerings, staff, and typical school operations details (menus, calendar, forms and Family Handbook). This information is available to families 24 hours, 7 days a week.

#### Contact information

• Current and prospective families can find all information on how to contact school administration.

### **Family Resources**

• Families will be able to find the Family Handbook, school enrollment and registration details, the school calendar, and additional materials to support families. The school's website is the source for the most upto-date, authoritative Family Handbook. The version of the Family Handbook available on the LEA S website supersedes any other version or copy that families or staff members may have in their files.

#### **Food Programs**

• In accordance with OSSE guidelines, all required information about LEA S's food program will be available to families on a monthly basis.

## **Operating Status**

• The school's operating status (open, closed, weather delay, etc.) will be communicated on the main page of the website. Should the school need to close due to COVID-19 or for any other health or safety reason, families will be advised via a banner on the homepage.

#### Social Media

LEA S has a social media presence on Facebook. This page is used to build broad awareness of LEA S and engage the broader DC community.

#### Direct to Families

LEA S relies regularly on e-mail as a tool for sharing important information. The school sends monthly newsletters, calendar e-mails, and letters about school plans and progress directly to families. All written communications are published in English and Spanish. LEA S is prepared to offer professional translation of these resources into other languages, as needs are identified. LEA S can also provide families with physical copies of these communications, upon request.

LEA S uses a text message system called Remind (<a href="www.remind.com">www.remind.com</a>) to alert families to school delays and closings, as well as remind families about upcoming events or important dates.

LEA S also communicates directly with families via Transparent Classroom, an online record-keeping platform. It allows teachers to record lessons, make notes, and track progress for each student. It also allows families to get a

taste of classroom life through photos and descriptions. Transparent Classroom is available to teachers, assistants, administrative team members, parents, and family members.

Families will receive direct communication from the school (either from administration or their child's guide) at least twice weekly.

## Family Engagement in Continuous Learning

LEA S has crafted an Instructional Delivery Plan in order to provide equitable access to learning for students as we navigate returning to school during a global pandemic. The intention is to continually engage families in the improvement of our remote and onsite learning opportunities so that the school is providing each student what they need in order to navigate this new way of learning. We will engage families in this process by providing training, opportunities to provide feedback on an ongoing basis, and resources on how to support their learner at home and when they are learning in-person at school.

## **Building Community**

During virtual learning, a concerted effort must be made to help students with new teachers get to know their classroom team. From August 18-20, LEA S will host virtual welcome visits. During welcome visits, students have individual meetings with their teachers, and teachers have the opportunity to learn about the student's interests and personality. During the first two weeks of the school year (August 24-September 4), students in PK3 will have a second one-on-one meeting with their guide before joining for small group PK lessons.

Every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, LEA S teachers host virtual office hours from 3:30-4pm. During office hours any family (new and returning) can meet with their child's teacher to build the relationship and maintain open lines of communication.

The theme for the month of September is "Our Community Values." During the entire month, classroom teams will use morning classroom meeting time to build community, reiterate the values of LEA S, and establish classroom norms and agreements. This month will also focus on the individuality of each student. A variety of classroom activities will invite students to share about themselves (i.e. the meaning/origin of their name; their family's heritage and culture; their traditions). The goal of this month is to help all students develop a strong sense of self, a positive attitude toward the diversity of their classroom, and a feeling of camaraderie and community within their virtual classroom.

# **Family Education**

Starting in August and continuing on a weekly basis, LEA S will provide virtual and in-person training to support families in navigating the continuous learning plan of LEA S. These family education seminars will include, but are not limited to:

- Troubleshooting your device at home
- Accessing the LEA S's distance learning platform and materials
- Navigating the learning management system

Family education seminars will be recorded and posted to LEA S's website for families who are not able to join for the live presentation and Q&A. Language interpretation will be provided for all family education seminars.

## Sample Family Education Schedule:

Quarter	Week of	Primary	Elementary	Schoolwide
Q0	8/17	Curriculum, Home Environment Setup, Suggested Work Schedule	Curriculum, Home Environment Setup, Work Schedule	Intro to Clever and Seesaw
Q1	8/24	Fostering Independence	Fostering Independence	Intro to RAZ kids
Q1	8/31	Emotional Support during the Pandemic	Emotional support during the Pandemic	Intro to Khan Academy
Q1	9/7	Supporting Work Choice at Home	Supporting Follow Up Work at Home	
Q1	9/14	Literacy in the Primary Classroom	Literacy in the Elementary Classroom	

Families will also be provided a quarterly curriculum guide, which identifies topics and concepts students will cover each week.

# Snapshot from Primary Curriculum Guide

- construction of the contract								
Quarter	Week	Subject	Year 1 (PK3)	Year 2 (PK4)	Year 3 (K)			
	of							
Q1	8/24	Introductions, Orientation, Assessment, Asynchronous Work						
Q1	9/7	Practical Life	"Excuse me", how to form a	Rolling a rug, walking	Washing a table			
			line, rolling a rug	around rugs, spooning				

Ser	nsorial	Sorting by colors	Sorting by colors (color box 2)	
Ma	ath	9	9	Counting aloud to 100, cards and counters
Lar	nguage I			Sound game: initial sounds
	-	-	•	Nature walks (or nature pictures)
Gro	oup Skills	Getting adult's attention	Getting adult's attention	Getting adult's attention
Equ	uity	Our classroom community		

In addition to the Curriculum Guide, families will receive a supply list, so they know what materials their student needs each week for their lessons and activities. LEAS will provide materials and supplies to families, as needed.

### **Continual Improvement**

LEA S will collect student/family input early and repeatedly about continuous learning. Within the first month of school, LEA S will circulate a family survey to gauge families' understanding of the distance learning program, as well as their satisfaction with their students' experiences. The survey will be circulated via e-mail, text, and paper copies on grocery distribution days. Families may also complete the survey via phone. Results from the surveys will be reviewed by the faculty during a Monday staff meeting and feedback incorporated accordingly.

At the conclusion of learning intervals, and at the time of progress reports and report cards, LEA S will work with families to complete surveys, either online or over the phone, to gather their feedback on the implementation of the continuous learning plan.

# Feedback for Students and Families

Just as LEA S plans to collect feedback from families, LEA S teachers will provide families with routine feedback on their student's work and progress.

• Families receive a curriculum guide that details the skills and concepts that teachers will introduce to students each week. Students complete follow-up work after receiving new content, both online and offline. Guides provide feedback on each assignment submitted through Seesaw.

- On Fridays, teachers hold meetings with classroom parents to review the curriculum guide for the coming week, answer any questions families might have, and help prepare them to support their child's learning.
- Teachers host office hours three times a week (Tuesday, Thursday and Friday). Families can make appointments to discuss their child's work and progress. Guides will also use these office hours to reach out to families if students are not progressing as hoped.
- Elementary students have weekly conferences with their teachers to review progress and set goals.
- At the end of each quarter, families receive a written, narrative progress report that details their student's progress in all areas of the curriculum.
- Parent/teacher conferences are held in the fall and in the spring.

### Family Resources

LEA S will provide the following resources to families:

- Chromebooks for any family that requests one
- Assistance procuring internet through Comcast Internet Essentials
- Optional onsite support with virtual learning for families of children with an IEP or families identified as at-risk (all health, safety, and cleaning protocols articulated in the School Operations section of this plan will be in place).
- School supplies and materials for any family that requests them
- Meals and grocery support for all families who qualify for free and reduced-price meals (FARM)
- Age-appropriate books for any family that requests them
- · Child-sized cloth face masks for any family that requests one

Virtual training and family education seminars will be recorded and available to our families through our website. Any printed resources, guides, and other training materials will be circulated via email and available for families via the website.

## **Coronavirus Prevention Communication**

The continuous learning plan will enable seamless transitions between in-person and distance learning modalities. Given the continued community spread of coronavirus and the increased risk of Black and Latinx students and their communities, preventing the spread of COVID-19 within schools requires consistent family engagement and clear communication.

# Reporting

To prevent the spread of coronavirus, we will ask families and staff to report any coronavirus cases within their households. To maintain the privacy of the family, we encourage affected students and families to reach out to the COVID-19 Point of Contact within 24 hours of the household member's diagnosis.

### **Trainings**

To prevent the spread of coronavirus, LEA S will offer training for students, staff, and families. Topics may include:

- How to safely return to school: a training detailing all in-school processes for students, families and staff
- Healthy Habits for Staying COVID-19 Free: Support for the entire school community on how to stay safe during the global pandemic

#### Signage and Resources

Signs will be posted in highly visible areas (entrances, restrooms, high-traffic hallways) that promote everyday protective measures and describe how to stop the spread of germs (such as properly washing hands and properly wearing a cloth face covering). These signs will align with CDC guidance.

As detailed in Section I, the school website will house ongoing resources and materials for families. All recorded training and printable resources will be available on LEA S's website.

LEA T

To ensure that students and families can fully engage in continuous learning opportunities and stay informed on school operations, LEA T will:

# Engage students and families through various methods of communication

The Student Support Services Team will communicate updates to families and students weekly using multiple methods, including phone calls, text messages, emails, social media, the school's website, and, when safe and appropriate, home visits. Using a third-party platform, KazooHR, teachers, and support staff will host virtual checkin meetings and feedback sessions more frequently for students and families requiring intensive engagement interventions.

# Solicit and incorporate student and family input

Families and students can complete an online help form to communicate concerns, ask questions, or provide feedback on distance learning design and policies. To maintain open communication daily with all students and families, individualized family engagement opportunities are offered by the Student Support Services Team. Support staff maintain an assigned caseload of 6 to 15 families and serve as the centralized and primary point of contact for distance learning updates, feedback, policies, academic performance, and progress on goals. Through daily student check-ins, weekly family check-ins, and coordination of school resources, support staff collaboratively

identify and address the needs and concerns of all students and families. Fridays are designated for family and student outreach. Each Friday families and students receive updates on student progress, policies, resources, and supports and can provide feedback continuous learning opportunities. In morning community meetings students can provide input and feedback to staff about continuous learning.

## Communicate about unanticipated closures and concerns

Information, resources, and updates about unanticipated health and safety concerns or building access are shared by phone, on our school website, and across multiple social media platforms. Families receive additional information and updates through scheduled calls, emails, and texts.

## Share expectations and training for family

The Operations Team provides computers, hotspots, food, and supplies to students and families through building pick-up and home delivery. Students and families are offered group and one-on-one training on instructional technology and distance learning platforms. Training is held during daily office hours to ensure all students and families are able to access their school email accounts, the video conferencing platform, and their learning management system accounts. The school maintains a site that provides students and families with links to access distance learning tools and resources. A help desk and support hotline is established for students and families who need assistance with accessing distance learning technology.

## Facilitate introductions to new teachers and classmates

The school will offer daily Community Meetings to introduce new teachers and classmates at the beginning of the school year. Community Meetings will involve virtual team building activities, introductions, and surveys on interests, learning preferences, and other data collection tools. Intervention Coordinators and teaching teams hold individual sessions with students during daily office hour periods and sessions with families through weekly family outreach events. All teachers and student support team members have the technology they need to facilitate introductions during distance learning, including computers, hotspots, internet access, and assistive learning devices. The school offers training to staff on strategies to engage new students, teachers, and families in distance learning. Evidence-based practices for engagement include restorative practices and positive behavior interventions and supports (PBIS). Teachers are given funds to purchase supplies and equipment to establish suitable distance learning environments and facilitate innovative engagement practices and strategies for all students.

### Ensure Formal Routine Feedback

Report cards, IEP progress reports, attendance reports, and discipline reports, and assessment results will be shared with families at the end of each trimester. Any student in danger of receiving an unsatisfactory grade for a particular grading period will be given a progress report and personalized intervention plan to advise families about promotion decisions, next steps, and supports.

### Ensure Informal Routine Feedback

Access to a school information parent portal enables parents to be connected to their student's academic performance, engagement, and teachers 24 hours a day. This feature keeps parents involved and actively participating in their student's education. The information available to parents in the parent portal includes attendance records, grades, calendar updates, a message board for policy and promotion updates, and basic student and family contact information.