ARMOUR REOPENING PLAN 2020-2021
HEAD OF SCHOOL STATEMENT

Dear AL Community,

As we prepare for a successful opening of the 2020-21 school year, Académie Lafayette has developed a school reopening plan to address the needs of all learners, while keeping our students and staff safe and healthy. I would like to thank the teams and individuals that collaborated on this district reopening plan, including staff, parents, students, reopening taskforce, Board of Education, our Board of Directors, school leaders, Missouri Charter Public School Association, Children’s Mercy Hospital, and local health authorities.

It is important to note that circumstances can, and likely will, change. Consequently, this plan is fluid and will change and adapt to respond to new information as it becomes available. To access our most recent reopening plan and frequently asked questions document, please visit the Académie Lafayette website (www.academielafayette.org).

I would like to invite each and every member of our school community to fully participate in making this school year a safe and successful learning experience for our children.

I thank you for your continued support of our school and this reopening plan.

ELIMANE MBENGUE
Head of School
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Building Plan
- Social distancing
- Student wellness
- Arrival
- Dismissal
- Lockers
- Student Attendance & Engagement
- Online instruction
- On-site instruction
- Assessment and grading
- Student support
- Uniforms
- Technology

The district plan is available on our distance learning page [here](#).
SOCIAL DISTANCING

In the Classroom

- Classrooms will be arranged with students at their own desk, facing the same direction, with a minimum of a 3 foot radius around each student, which grants 6 feet between all students.

- Each student will have their own supplies, not to be shared with any other student. Students will keep their backpack, coat, lunchbox, and any other personal items at their desk to minimize their potential contact with other students.

- Due to increased risk of viral spread during aerobic activities, contact sports, singing, and playing woodwind-type instruments, Gym and Music class will be held outside when weather allows with each child having a minimum of a 6 foot radius of space, granting 12 feet between each student. If it is not possible to hold class outside, alternate class activities that will not increase risk of viral transmission will be chosen.

- Support classes will “push in” to each homeroom class in order to reduce the number of students in the hallways throughout the day. In the event Special Education, Speech, and/or Social Work must do “pull-out” interactions with students, those visits must have an attendance record including students first and last names and teachers, date and time.

Recess

Students must wash their hands before and after recess. Recess will be held outside of the classroom whenever weather permits. Recess will be strictly scheduled to avoid mixing of grade levels. Homeroom classes should be kept apart during recess in order to remain within the assigned cohorts. Teachers should stay at least 6 feet away from each other while monitoring recess.

Signage

Signage will be posted throughout the building to remind students and staff of the need to socially distance.
**Indoor Airflow**

Windows will be open (weather permitting) as much as possible and classroom doors will remain closed as much as possible. The use of windowless spaces will be discouraged. If a windowless space must be used, a portable air cleaner with HEPA filtration is recommended.

**Health Room**

The Health room will be used for first aid and medication distribution. In order to reduce congestion in the Health Room and decrease risk of disease transmission, teachers will be asked to address the following issues in the classroom:

- basic first aid including small cuts and scrapes
- dispensing lip balm and cough drops as appropriate
- minor stomach or headaches
- ensuring adequate food and water intake

Students who are ill with flu-like symptoms will be evaluated and treated in the designated isolation room. If a student needs to be evaluated by the nurse, the teacher will call the nurse to describe why the student is being sent in order for the child to be evaluated in the appropriate space.
Social-Emotional Wellness

The emotional and mental health of our students, staff and families is important. To that end, our committee has been working since the summer to prepare for a happy, healthy start to in person learning.

Before School Starts

Required training for staff included youth suicide awareness, trauma social-emotional learning, and bullying (especially cyber-bullying). Our school social worker and counselors are available to families to assess needs and provide support.

After re-opening

- Classroom social-emotional support: trained teachers and “Musketeer Time” included during the online and in-person school day to develop rapport and provide for an emotionally safe learning environment. Character classes taught by our social worker and counselors include age appropriate topics such as coping skills, citizenship, online safety, and bullying.

- Other emotional-behavioral support on an as needed basis include individual counseling and therapy sessions, family counseling/therapy sessions, mental health referrals to families.

- Student behavioral process: Académie Lafayette uses PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Support) as our school-wide system for shaping school culture. It is a research-based program built on principles of proactively and positively identifying, teaching and rewarding expected behaviors. Teachers will spend the first few days in person teaching and practicing PBIS expectations- i.e. wearing masks, arrival/dismissal, walking in halls, bathroom breaks, etc. Teachers will continue to use procedures to triage with students who are needing emotional/behavioral support.
Support to Struggling Students

Additional support will be provided in the following ways:

- Intervention for students with attendance concerns
- Individual counseling sessions
- Family consultation with social worker
- CARE team referral
- Musketeer Time is a time slot during each school day when teachers and counselors will provide social-emotional support to students as a whole class (includes character classes and assemblies)
- Home visits will be offered to students who are struggling academically, emotionally or with attendance

Additional support services will be available to families on an “as needed” basis. These services can be found on the counseling website.

Need Help?

For assistance with food, clothing, medicine, insecurity, shelter, financial struggles, health concerns, or concerns about student re-entering school, please contact:

- Oak: Adam Nachum, anachum@academielafayette.org
- Cherry: Sheila Baskin, sbaskin@academielafayette.org
- Armour: Liz Seely, leely@academielafayette.org
From the Principal

We appreciate the partnership of our parents during this challenging time and look forward to welcoming students safely back to the building. This plan includes basic information on reopening at the Armour campus. For further questions, please contact the school at (816) 800-8771.

School Operations & Logistics

We are altering our indoor classroom and common spaces and reconfiguring our processes to ensure six feet of physical distance between all persons in our school facilities as a planning framework. Desks and furniture have been removed or rearranged to accommodate the six-foot physical distancing requirement.

School hours:
- New student hours: 8:15 am - 3:15 pm
- Doors open at 8:00 am. Students will report directly to their classrooms and be supervised by their homeroom teachers, to protect cohorts and limit gathering of students.

Arrival

- Classes start at 8:15 am.
- Bus riders enter through the Warwick door.
- Car riders and walkers enter through the parking lot door. Parents should remain in vehicles.
- Students will be visually screened for signs of illness upon building/classroom entry.
- Students will go to their locker at their designated homeroom time.
**Dismissal**

To keep students and staff separated and safe we will be using different exits and staggered times for dismissal.

**Dismissal process:**

- Bus riders will be dismissed from the classroom first.
- Walkers will be dismissed from the classroom 5 minutes later.
- Car riders will be escorted to the gym and cafeteria to be dismissed individually via the library ramp to the parking lot 5 minutes later.
- Parents picking-up by car will enter on the Warwick side and exit on the McGee side.
- Parents should remain in their vehicle when picking up.

**Lockers**

Students will use lockers as backpack and coat storage. No books should be stored inside.

**Guidelines:**

- 3 locker distance at all times when using one’s locker.
- No locks allowed.
- Lockers will be labeled and color-coded by homeroom for identification. Students are not to remove those tags.
Student Attendance and Engagement

It is important that students attend school regularly whether online or in person. Attendance will be taken during all phases of reopening. The school will continue to communicate with families via phone calls and written correspondence when there is an attendance concern.

Online Instruction

All students will be using Google classroom to access online instruction. Teachers use a dedicated Google Meet link during phase one of online learning, and on days when students are learning remotely during phases two and three. Students must access their online classes using their individual school email addresses @academielafayette.org.

Parent/family access to Google Classroom: Parents are encouraged to periodically log in to their student’s Google classroom accounts to see what work is required. To sign up for automatic weekly or daily guardian summaries of your child’s assignments and lessons please contact your child’s teacher.

On-site Instruction (Hybrid - Phase 2)

Families who have selected online learning for the 1st semester will continue with 100% online learning, even when the school moves to Phase 2 (in person hybrid learning).

Hybrid Phase 2 daily hours at the Armour Campus:
- Doors open at 8:00 am
- School hours: 8:15 am to 3:15 pm

Under a hybrid learning scenario, all students attend school two days a week in person and three days a week online. Parents received an email with their child’s hybrid group assignment.

When the school moves to phase 3 (4 day in-person instruction), further scheduling details will be communicated.
**Assessment and Grading**

Teachers will continue to use the IB grading system. Our students will be assessed both formally and informally throughout the trimester, and end of trimester common assessments will be given at all grade levels. Grades will be recorded and communicated via Tyler, our new student information management system.

The school will also continue regular standardized assessments (NWEA and MAP) as required.

**Supporting Student Learning**

Please contact Dr. Patty Smith (psmith@academielafayette.org) for Special Education and Section 504 plans.

**Uniforms**

Students will be expected to wear their school uniforms on in-person learning days.

**Technology**

If families have technology needs, please see the school’s distance learning page on the website for information about chromebooks or internet access.