

TO: Woodbury Leadership Academy Stakeholders
DA: July 31, 2020
FR: Dr. Mortensen
RE: **UPDATE ON SCHOOL RE-OPENING**

Greetings,

As I'm sure many of you are aware, **the Governor released a statement yesterday that all Minnesota schools may re-open this fall under a variety of learning platforms, based on county, fourteen-day, COVID-19 case rates. WLA plans to re-open with families having the choice of on-site, or on-line options. If we were to re-open today, based on the Washington County Case Rates, we could consider serving K-5 students, on-site, all day, and our students in grades 6-8 would be at school on a rotating schedule.** Under the Governor's plan, school districts have flexibility in selecting the scenario that works best for their community, in-person learning at school, distance learning at home or hybrid learning which is typically seen as a combination of both. Keep in mind that as COVID-19 cases change, school districts will need to shift to a different educational scenario based on the state's guidelines.

At WLA, on-site and on-line program models have been developed according to the extensive and specific guidelines put forth by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the American Pediatric Association (APA). Speaking in behalf of all staff members, throughout this challenging time, we are prepared to serve WLA families and students in a manner that promotes the WLA mission and vision, and ensures that all students are acquiring a quality educational experience.

While we do not yet have all the answers, the board will be meeting again on August 6th, to finalize what our on-site learning program will look like. We have been planning for a hybrid (alternating days) for K-8 students, but we are also looking at additional on-site options, such as having younger students on-site daily with older students on alternating days or on-line. WLA is located in Washington County, and currently, the bi-weekly case rate for Washington County from July 5-18 shows a 14.84 case rate, resulting in the recommendation of in-person learning for elementary students and hybrid learning for secondary students. In order to move forward with further planning for our on-site programming, I need to hear from each family as to whether you are interested in on-site or on-line program model. **Please use the following link to specify your program model preference, so that I can ensure correct staffing levels, and organize bus routes.** <https://bit.ly/2BG9NLP> **Please respond by August 3rd.** You will be making your choice at this time for the entire first trimester. At the end of the first trimester, we will make changes as requested by families.

I know many of you have questions, thus I have included with this memo, a **"Hybrid and On-Line Learning Family Handbook"**, a **"Q & A"** sheet, and a copy of the draft **WLA COVID-19 Policy**, to assist with keeping all of us informed and organized. Finally, I would add that WLA staff members have been working very hard to launch quality programming, and I am honored to work in partnership with all of our WLA staff, family and community stakeholders.

Learning Model Parameters

Number of cases per 10,000 over 14 days, by county of residence	Learning model
0-9	In-person learning for all students
10-19	In-person learning for elementary students; hybrid learning for secondary students
20-29	Hybrid learning for all students
30-49	Hybrid learning for elementary students; distance learning for secondary students
50+	Distance learning for all students

Thank you,
Dr. Kathleen Mortensen
Executive Director
Woodbury Leadership Academy