



ECPS Schools Reopening Plans for 2020-2021

Dear ECPS Family,

The start of the 2020-2021 school year is approaching quickly and will be here before we know it! After closing the book on a school year unlike any other, district and school leadership have spent months working hard to prepare to return to school for what we know will be a “new normal.” I know you are eager for answers about what your children's routines will look like as our community continues to deal with the many challenges of the coronavirus pandemic. After months of listening to our stakeholders coupled with guidance from educational and medical experts, we are pleased to share East Carroll’s Plan for Reopening. Please rest assured that the East Carroll Parish School System is prepared to welcome your children back with both virtual and in-person flexible options. We will remain flexible in our planning efforts so that we may be able to adapt to any changes caused by the health pandemic.

Because of current local health trends and COVID-19 statistical data for our parish, the district will begin with a deferred approach, with a 100 % virtual option for the first six weeks grading period of the school year. However, our top priority is to safely reopen schools tentatively on August 10 and provide your children with the best education possible. During the 100 % virtual option, we will permit very small groups with specific needs requiring face-to-face instruction. The district will distribute Chromebooks to each student, and MiFi devices to provide internet services to each household as needed. We have partnered with the East Carroll Parish Housing Authority and the Lake Providence Housing Authority. They will also provide MiFi devices to households in their developments with students who attend school in our district.

If local conditions allow, starting September 19, 2020, we will move from all virtual instruction. Parents will then have a choice of two models based on the initial feedback collected in our Back-to-School Parent Survey, we have outlined several possible school return models: 100% Virtual Carroll Academy Model, and a hybrid Two-Day Rotation model (a blend of face-to-face and virtual learning). A modified 100% Face-to-Face instruction model may be implemented for the second semester starting January 2021, **only if local conditions allow**. These plans were designed with the most recent guidance from local and national education and health officials in mind.

As a community, we must work together to mitigate risks to our students and teachers as we return to school. Everyone will be required to wear face coverings, schools will perform temperature checks upon arrival, social distancing measures of six feet will be enforced to the greatest extent possible, and enhanced cleaning will take place at all schools, facilities, and buses daily. We will also ask everyone to stay at home if they are sick, exhibiting symptoms, or have close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19.

We are aware that preparing for reopening in this "new normal" will not be an easy task. The school closures have tremendously disrupted the lives of families. Educators have been required to adapt to a new way of delivering instruction. Our educators are essential to helping our community move forward in the face of this crisis, and we are committed to doing all we can at ECPS to support them this coming school year.

There is no doubt that this 2020-21 school year will be different, but we must be prepared to adjust and respond as needed at any given moment. We know we are asking more of our educators and families, however with our community's support, cooperation, and shared sacrifice, together we will help our children thrive.

In Partnership,



Meagan Brown
Superintendent
East Carroll Parish Schools

FOUNDATIONAL GRADES:

Prekindergarten – 1st grade are our foundational grade levels. We are developing a plan that will allow them to get some invaluable in-person instruction. Explicit instruction of foundational skills is critical in early elementary school. By the end of third grade, far too many students are at risk for not being proficient readers and not on grade level. This is an emerging plan and each parent will be contacted for their input.

SURVEY RESPONSE:

Many logistics must be worked out such as classroom layout, schedules, seating assignments, student meal service, bus transportation, and online education options. We are using the feedback provided by parents in the survey sent on June 30th. This survey will help as we shape flexible education plans to meet the needs of over 900 students. We have extended the survey to July 24th to collect additional information needed to better serve your transportation and virtual options needs.

VIRTUAL- THE CARROLL ACADEMY:

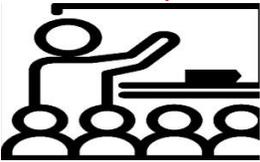
We understand families may not feel comfortable returning their children to school for in-person instruction. However, we still want to educate your child in an online learning academy. All families will have the option to receive instruction virtually through their school. East Carroll Parish Schools has developed an online distance learning virtual instruction program that will be staffed with East Carroll Parish teachers. Along with our school opening plans, we will be rolling out very detailed information about how our distance learning programs will look this year.

PARENTAL GUIDANCE:

1. We will be opening our initial registration process beginning July 21, 2020. The registration process will be scheduled by last name and schools will notify parents of the process. Please register your children as soon possible and choose from the option for the Virtual Academy model or hybrid Two-Day Rotation model beginning, September 19, 2020, if you plan to send your child to school in our buildings. Make sure your school has updated and correct contact information. This will assist us in preparing plans for classroom and transportation capacity, as well as staffing.
2. Face masks will be considered an official part of the uniform. Although the district is preparing to provide masks for students, we encourage you to get your children face coverings. All staff and students will be required to wear a mask. Face coverings should be school-appropriate, and you will receive additional information from your schools on face coverings. We recommend that you have your elementary students practice using face coverings prior to the beginning of school. Exceptions to face mask/coverings must be made for those for whom it is not possible to wear a mask due to medical conditions, behavioral issues, disabilities, or other health or safety issues. Additional Guidance will be provided to support implementation for grades Prekindergarten – 2nd, given the developmental stage of students, which may require additional flexibility, along with the use of face shields.
3. It will be very important for parents to monitor their child's health on a daily basis by watching for symptoms of COVID-19, and it would be very helpful if parents took their child's temperature each morning. Do not send students to school if they have a temperature of 100.4 or above or after administering fever-reducing medicine.
4. Additional information will be coming from your child's school concerning class schedules, transportation, school supplies, etc.
5. Please follow us at East Carroll Parish School District on Facebook or our website ecarrollschools.org. We will share important updates as they become available.

FLEXIBLE OPTIONS



<p>Virtual - The Carroll Academy Option (Entire 20-21 SY)</p> <p>Registration begins July 21, 2020</p> 	<p>Hybrid Model Two- Day Rotation</p> <p>September 19, 2020</p> <p>(If local parameters allow and COVID-19 data shows stable trends)</p> 	<p>Modified Face- to- Face Model</p> <p>2nd Semester Option – January 2021</p> <p>(Statewide Designation PHASE III-If local parameters allow and COVID-19 data shows stable trends)</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff report to schools daily and provide teacher-led instruction via district-approved education platforms. • Students do not report to school and receive instruction 100% virtually • District will ensure families' technology needs are met 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff report to schools daily and provide teacher-led instruction via district-approved education platforms. • Students attend school two days of the week for face to face instruction; receive live and/or recorded virtual instruction the other days of the week • District will ensure families' technology needs are met <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Maximum class size will be 12 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students attend school four days a week for face to face instruction using additional safety precautions • Staff report to schools daily and provide teacher-led instruction via district-approved education platforms.

Hybrid Model Two- Day Rotation

All schools will open September 19th in the hybrid model. The maximum class sizes for this model will be 12. Students will attend school in person on an “A” or “B” Day as assigned by their school in order as follows:

- Monday and Tuesday - “A” Day
- Thursday and Friday- “B” Day
- Wednesday - 100% Virtual for all students, Deep Cleaning Day

The virtual day of instruction provides schools the flexibility for small group instruction and specific individual instruction. This also provides an opportunity for teachers to build lessons using the district's learning management system, Google Classroom

Carroll Academy Virtual Option

The Carroll Academy virtual option will open to all families of students in grades prekindergarten through 12th grade at their home school with registration beginning July 21st. Families choosing the virtual option will sign up for a minimum of one six weeks. In this option, students will be able to participate in virtual learning at their school made possible by instruction from a teacher at the campus providing Tier I-aligned curriculum, lessons, and supports. The district help families meet all technology needs. Students will be able to participate in all extracurricular activities and athletics. Students will receive a grade for all assignments in accordance with Board policy.

Modified Face-to-Face

2nd Semester Option - **January 2021**- This model will only be used in a Statewide Designation PHASE III and **only if local parameters allow and COVID-19 data shows stable trends**. The modified face to face option will provide students with daily face-to-face instruction for four days a week. Social distancing will be implemented to the maximum extent possible and an emphasis placed on literacy and mathematics with built-in remediation to meet students' individual needs.



Safety Precautions

1. The safety of our employees and students are our first priority. Upon reopening, our schools will be professionally cleaned and sanitized we will continue to adhere to all necessary safety precautions. The school buses will also be cleaned before use each morning and after each use daily to reduce the risk of spread of infection. We will require custodial staff and all other employees to maintain this safety standard by continuously cleaning and disinfecting daily. We will also deep clean weekly.
2. We have partnered with the Sheriff's Offender's Program to provide Privacy Desk Shields for students and teachers as an added layer of protection.
3. Schools will inactivate all water fountains. The district will provide bottled water for students. This will ensure students have frequent access to clean water without compromising safety. Students can also bring bottled water to school for this purpose.
4. Child Nutrition is preparing to serve student meals in modified formats - grab and go meals and classroom delivered meals to the classrooms. Each format will ensure minimal contact outside of classroom groups. Food service protocols may vary by school. Meals will be provided to all students as a part of each instructional option daily.
5. According to health officials, the most important safety message is frequent handwashing. We will provide students many opportunities to either wash hands or use hand sanitizer throughout the day.
6. Schools will be supplied with digital thermometers, which will allow for daily non-contact temperature screenings of all students by their homeroom teacher or first-period class. Students with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be sent to the isolation room and assessed by the school nurse and sent home.

Please Note:

An operational guide with detailed safety procedures will be released, July 21st with registration.

FLEXIBLE OPTIONS THROUGH PHASES

<p style="text-align: center;">PHASE I</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">PHASE II</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">PHASE III (Option I) January 2021</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">PHASE III (Option II) January 2021</p> 
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students will receive virtual online instruction through the Virtual - The Carroll Academy • Staff report to school's daily • Students do not report to school and receive instruction 100% virtually • District will ensure families meet their technology needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hybrid Model Two- Day Rotation • Staff provide support and teacher-led instruction via district approved education platforms. • Students attend school 2 days of the week for face to face instruction; receive live and/or recorded virtual instruction the other days of the week • District will ensure families meet their technology needs • Staff report to school daily and provide in-person and virtual instruction support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modified Face- to- Face Model 2nd Semester Option - January 2021 (If local parameters allow and COVID-19 data shows stable trends) • Virtual - The Carroll Academy (Parents who selected the Virtual Option for the year shall continue) • Students attend school four days a week using additional safety precautions (Modified Face to Face Model) • Staff report to school daily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hybrid Model Two- Day Rotation • Virtual - The Carroll Academy (Parents who selected the Virtual Option for the year shall continue) • Students attend school 2 days of the week for face to face instruction; receive live and/or recorded virtual instruction the other days of the week (Two- Day Rotation Model)