



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

The following Frequently Asked Questions were gathered from parent and staff feedback via surveys, email communication, and staff small group meetings. The district will continue to update this document as we move forward.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

What is the Return to Learn plan for Livonia Public Schools?

Livonia Public Schools will be offering two options to parents: 1) In person learning, starting with Safe Start September and gradual reentry plan OR 2) Livonia Virtual, a long-term, fully online learning option for students.

Based on the plan approved for our district, for families choosing the first option, we will begin the school year on Tuesday, September 8, with "Safe Start September," a remote start through the month of September. Remote learning includes the student learning from home, with his/her teacher teaching virtually with a blend of live and self-paced instruction.

A gradual in-person re-entry model of blended in-person and remote learning will follow the Safe Start September and the timing will be guided by COVID-19 case data in our region. Specific details for this blended model will be shared prior to the start of the school year.

Students with an IEP with a placement in full time resource or center-based programs will start the school year in person on a modified schedule.

Why did the district decide on a Safe Start September remote model?

Safe Start September is designed to provide a cautious and responsible start to the school year, focused on meeting the educational and social/emotional needs of our students while also considering the health and safety of our students and staff. This time will be focused on providing a meaningful, robust learning plan and schedule, the inclusion of classroom community building and an opportunity to embed high quality remote teaching, learning and collaborative experiences for our students.

During this time, we will have the opportunity to carefully monitor the return to school for students in other regions and districts, learn from those experiences and hone our current health and safety protocols based on this review. We will also closely monitor data in our city and region and remain in close contact with our ISD, the Wayne County Health Department and other districts as we plan for the return of our students following Safe Start September.

How was the LPS Return to Learn Plan developed?

Starting back in late May, the district began assembling a 200-plus member task force comprised of LPS staff members and parents.

Throughout the summer, our task force subgroup teams researched, developed and provided recommendations to the task force steering committee for a range of potential school re-entry scenarios, in order to safely, effectively and successfully meet the needs of the students and staff entrusted to us.

The task force teams worked through the three possible return to learn scenarios: in-person learning for all; a blend of in-person and remote learning or remote learning for all, based on the directives from the State of Michigan and the MDHHS.

If my family chooses in-person learning, following the Safe Start September, do we need to fill out a form?

No, there is nothing that you need to do in order to return under the in-person model and Safe Start September. Families who choose the fully online, long-term Livonia Virtual must complete the enrollment form prior to noon on August 12.

How will my student begin to become part of their classroom community in a virtual environment?

The heart of our work at all of our LPS schools during the first weeks of the school year is to build our school and classroom communities. Under our in-person and Livonia Virtual offerings, this will be a large part of our work together those first weeks of the school year.

We will build these safe and welcoming communities by offering live daily instruction, small group instruction and allocate time to address individual students' needs. In addition, our intent will be to hold our historical start of the year activities as much as possible.

Although they will look different, activities such as curriculum night for parents, student material pickup, an invitation to meet your child's teacher in person and "getting to know you" activities are just a few examples of our start of the year intentions. These start of the year events and activities will be communicated through our district and school websites and by your child's principal and teachers.

Will there be changes in transportation this school year?

Transportation for all eligible LPS students will be provided. Student eligibility to ride a bus will not change from previous years.

Bus routes and schedules are still to be determined, based on enrollment. Specialty routes, such as Webster, MCAT, CAPA, LCTC will continue. Students and staff must wear face coverings and use hand sanitizer per state guidelines

What are the plans for providing meals for students when we return to in-person instruction?

Grab 'n' Go breakfast, similar to practice in prior years. Students will pick up breakfast on their way into school and proceed to their classroom.

Lunch meals will be delivered to the classrooms. Our youngest learners and those with unique needs will eat in the cafeteria, appropriately distanced.

Will meals be provided during Safe Start September?

During the remote learning period, meals will still be made available to those students who want and need them. While we are still working out the precise details of how this will look, the Food & Nutrition Department is working with the Transportation Department to form the outlines of a plan that would allow us to use buses to deliver meals to drop-off points around the district, such as school LPS school buildings or park areas, on a daily basis. These meals would be pre-ordered by families and pre-paid by those families who choose to purchase meals. Students in the Free and Reduced Meal Program would get their meals per regular programming rules.

GENERAL QUESTIONS CONTINUED

For the remote learning and the Livonia Virtual program, will the district provide a mobile device and/or internet for students in need?

Yes, the district has already distributed approximately 3,000 Chromebooks and the goal is to provide as many as needed for all students. The district recently purchased additional devices and each school has Chromebook carts.

Students are welcome to bring their own device to school as well, and are encouraged to do so if one is available. Home internet needs should be brought to the attention of the school principal.

We are new to the LPS community, how do we register our student(s)?

First, welcome to Livonia Public Schools! Please visit livoniapublicschools.org/registration to get started.

How do I find out more information about LPS Return to Learn?

We have a dedicated website at livoniapublicschools.org/return.

LEVEL-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

Jackson Center Childcare, Preschool and SACC (School Age Child Care)

Will Jackson Center continue to be open for child care and preschool?

Yes, both child care and preschool will be offered at Jackson Center. Currently, there will be limited enrollment due to state guidelines. Mrs. Carignan and the Jackson team will be communicating our registration plans for these programs next week.

Will SACC be offered once students return for in-person instruction?

Yes, before and after school child care will be provided as a service once schools reopen for in-person instruction. An update on the registration process will be communicated to families in late August.

Will the Young 5s program run this year and on what schedule?

Yes, students in this program have already been enrolled. Young 5s students will begin the year with Safe Start September, as with our K-4 schools. Parents enrolled in this program should be receiving a direct communication from Jackson Center at the end of this week with schedule dates and times.

What is the schedule for the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) at Garfield Community School?

The GSRP program will follow a similar calendar as all LPS students. During the month of September, students will be engaged in remote learning from home, with synchronous (live) instruction with their teacher at 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. Monday through Thursday. GSRP will start in person, along with all students after the Safe Start September.

What is the schedule for the fee-based preschool programs at Jackson Center?

The fee-based preschool program will start in person no later than the week of September 14, 2020. Please see the Jackson Center website for the days and hours of each of the program offerings - livoniapublicschools.org/jackson.

Are preschool students (2 years 9 months-4 year olds) required to wear face coverings?

No, state licensing guidelines and the Wayne County Health Department do not recommend face coverings for this age group. The district will have child-sized face shields and also N-95 masks for staff.

Elementary - Grades K-6

What is the proposed schedule for K-4 students?

During the month of September, students (including Young 5's) will be engaged in remote learning from home, with synchronous (live) instruction with their teacher at 9:10 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Asynchronous (self-guided) work can be completed at times that fit a family's schedule during the afternoon or evening.

When we return to in-person instruction, students start the day at 9:10 a.m. and end the day at 3:25 p.m. (these times could be adjusted slightly).

What is the proposed schedule for upper elementary (grades 5 & 6) students?

During the month of September, students will be engaged in remote learning from home, with synchronous (live) instruction with their teacher at 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 1:15 p.m.

Asynchronous (self-guided) work can be completed at times that fit a family's schedule during the afternoon or evening.

When we return to in-person instruction, students start the day at 8:35 a.m. and end the day at 2:50 p.m. (these times could be adjusted slightly).

When will I be notified of my child's classroom teacher?

Notification in Parent Connect of your child's classroom teacher will take place on Wednesday, September 2 after 4:00 p.m.

How will we support our youngest students (grades K-4) in teaching them how to properly wear a face covering?

The district is creating Public Service Announcements (PSAs) and videos to help students understand the reasons for wearing face coverings and how to become accustomed to wearing face coverings. These will be emailed out to parents and also placed on our website.

The Safe Start September (Sept. 8 - 30) will be remote and will provide time to focus on teaching and practicing the new routines and safety protocol.

Parents are encouraged to have their child practice wearing masks both in and out of the house for periods of time, as well as how to independently put it on and take it off.

How will we address fears of being around people, wearing face coverings, etc. that some of our youngest students may experience?

During the Safe Start September, social emotional support will be a large focus of both synchronous and asynchronous instruction, to ensure students feel safe and happy.

LEVEL-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS: ELEMENTARY CONTINUED

Will the district provide paraprofessionals in the kindergarten classrooms this school year?

Yes, when we return to in-person instruction, this added support will be available.

How will the younger students be able to work and play together while maintaining physical distance?

We understand the importance of this for our youngest learners and are working to establish developmentally appropriate and creative ways to allow children to participate in these types of activities.

Will kindergarten students be expected to participate in remote learning after the in-person school day?

Yes, our kindergarten teachers will provide instruction during the school day on how to use Chromebooks and will assign an online assignment each day. Kindergarten students will also use iReady for math and reading after the first diagnostic assessment, which does not occur until later in the fall.

Will students be able to play outdoors for recess during the school day?

Yes, in order to limit class cohorts from mixing, each class will have its own recess time during the school day.

Will face coverings be required during outdoor recess?

Students will be able to take a break from wearing their face coverings during outdoor recess.

How will specials (art, music, PE, computers) be handled?

Generally, students will visit the art room and will bring their own supplies from their classroom to the art room. Cleaning will occur between classes. Music class details are in the works.

Physical education will be held outdoors as often as possible; when indoors the focus will be on skill based, less strenuous activity and health lessons.

IT classes will be held in the computer lab, LMC or in the classroom.

Will students eat lunch in the cafeteria?

Our youngest students will eat lunch in the cafeteria based on physical distancing and students in later grades will eat lunch in the classroom.

How will classrooms with team tables be arranged for physical distancing?

The district will make every attempt to replace the tables with single desks. When that is not possible, students will be seated as far apart as possible at the tables.

How can teachers do guided reading with small groups of students while maintaining physical distance?

The district has purchased plexiglass barriers for use in classrooms to provide a safe space for teachers to do one-on-one and/or small group instruction.

Is the state still requiring a kindergarten readiness assessment at the start of the school year?

Yes, these tests are required by the state.

Will there be a kindergarten round-up for incoming families?

Virtual round-ups were held in the spring, but teams are working on creating plans for a pre-start event which would allow small groups of students to visit in person prior to the start of school.

How are class sizes going to be reduced?

The district is currently hiring additional teachers to help reduce class sizes. Class sizes are expected to decrease with enrollments in the Livonia Virtual program.

A "gentle arrival and dismissal" has been discussed. What does this mean?

This simply means that students, upon arrival, will go directly to their classroom without lining up at the exterior doors. Dismissal will be staggered to avoid students from crowding into a specific space.

Will parents be allowed to drop their students off early in the morning?

Arrival times will be communicated by the principal. Early drop-offs are not allowed, as teachers will be in the planning period prior to the school day. This will be strictly enforced.

Will parents and PTA volunteers be allowed in the schools?

Visitors will not be allowed to spend time in the schools while the state is in Phase 4.

Grades 7-12

What is the proposed daily schedule for middle school students?

During the Safe Start September of remote learning, students will have a block of both synchronous and asynchronous instruction for three 100 minute periods a day. The middle school day during September will begin at 8:00 a.m. and conclude at 1:45 p.m. during the remote learning period.

When we return to in-person instruction, middle school students will start the day at 7:30 a.m. and end the in-person day at 1:15 p.m. (these times could be slightly adjusted)

Middle school students will have an additional required remote learning module daily that students will complete outside of school hours.

What is the proposed daily schedule for high school students?

For the Safe Start September of remote learning, students will have a block of both synchronous and asynchronous instruction for three 100 minute periods a day. The high school day will begin at 8:10 a.m. and conclude at 1:55 p.m. during the remote learning period. When we return to in person instruction, high school students start the day at 8:10 a.m. and end the day at 1:55 p.m. High school students will have an additional one hour of remote learning daily (these times could be slightly adjusted)

What is a block schedule?

A block schedule calls for three 100-minute classes per school day, instead of six 55-minute classes. A sample schedule would be: Classes 1, 2 and 3 on Monday; Classes 4, 5 and 6 on Tuesday; Classes 1, 2 and 3 on Wednesday; Classes 4, 5 and 6 on Thursday; Classes 1, 2 and 3 on Friday; Classes 4, 5 and 6 on Monday, and so on.

Why is the block schedule being considered?

A block schedule allows student cohorts to remain intact for longer periods during the school day and reduces the number of different cohorts a student encounters each school day. Instead of six classes of students in a day, there would be three classes of students in a day.

Passing times are reduced from six to three, reducing the number of times students are in the hallways throughout the day. Block scheduling is a time-tested learning model that offers students more time in a class period for more in-depth discussion and sustained collaboration. Overall instructional time for each course is the same as with the traditional schedule over the course of a semester.

What is the expectation for the remote learning component for students?

Students will have a weekly assignment from each class that is approximately one hour of remote learning from home. This remote component will continue when we return to in-person instruction.

LEVEL-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS: GRADES 7-12 CONTINUED

Why is there a remote learning component in the proposed plans?

The goal is to keep students and teachers familiar with and engaged in remote learning, in the event the district needs to move back to remote learning at any given time.

How will the Livonia Career Technical Center (LCTC) be affected by the block schedule?

Students will be scheduled to go to the LCTC in two 100 minute blocks. Individual student schedules will be shared when the scheduling process is complete.

Will students be allowed to use lockers?

Students will go to their lockers at the beginning and end of the day, but not in between classes, in order to avoid congregation of students.

Will athletics be allowed?

The district will continue to monitor the guidance of local health authorities and the Michigan High School Athletic Association, followed by consultation by our district leaders and athletic directors.

How will schedule pick-up be handled?

Schedules will be released electronically. Watch for communication to come from your principal.

Sample Middle School Block Schedule

Instructional Model Secondary

7:25 - 7:35 Teacher Prep
7:35 - 9:15 1st Hour/4th Hour *DRAFT SCHEDULE*
9:15 - 9:20 Passing Time
9:20 - 11:35 2nd Hour/5th Hour & Lunch
11:35 - 11:40 Passing Time
11:40 - 1:20 3rd Hour/6th Hour
1:20 - 3:07 Teacher Prep/Collaboration Time

Daily Student Remote Learning Module mandatory for each student; asynchronous so completion time is flexible based on student's schedule

Sample High School Block Schedule

Instructional Model Secondary

7:20 - 8:10 Teacher Prep/Collaborative Time
8:10 - 9:50 1st Hour/4th Hour *DRAFT SCHEDULE*
9:50 - 9:55 Passing Time
9:55 - 12:10 2nd Hour/5th Hour & Lunch
12:10 - 12:15 Passing Time
12:15 - 1:55 3rd Hour/6th Hour
1:55 - 3:02 Teacher Prep/Collaboration Time

Daily student remote learning Module mandatory for each student; asynchronous so completion time is flexible based on student's schedule.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

From where did the district receive its guidance for a safe return to school?

- MI Safe Schools: Michigan's 2020-2021 Return to School Roadmap
- Wayne County Health Department Guidelines
- Centers for Disease Control - Guidance for Schools
- American Association of Pediatrics

Will my student be required to wear a face covering while in school?

Yes. The district is requiring all students in grades K-12 (including post secondary) to wear face coverings (masks or gaitors) throughout the day, with the exception of eating and drinking and all students in grades pre K-12 (including post secondary) to wear face coverings on transportation.

If a student has a documented medical condition, cannot independently remove the face covering or has other disability-related issues to wearing a face covering, the student will not be required to wear a face covering. Other options, such as a face shield may be an option for those who cannot tolerate a face mask. District administration will work with students' families if this is a concern.

Are students and staff allowed to wear a clear plastic face shield instead of a mask?

Students who have medical documentation exempting them from wearing a face mask are allowed to wear a clear face shield. Staff who have medical documentation exempting them from wearing a face mask are allowed to wear a clear face shield. Staff who are engaged in live instruction (in person or remote) may wear a face shield to promote clear and effective communication. Staff must wear a face mask while in common areas.

Are staff required to wear face coverings?

Yes, face coverings will be worn by all staff at all times except for meals or if alone in classroom/office.

Why is the district going beyond the state requirements for students in grades 6-12 to wear face coverings?

COVID-19 spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice (e.g., while shouting, chanting, or singing). These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Recent studies show that a significant portion of individuals with COVID-19 lack symptoms (are "asymptomatic") and that even those who eventually develop symptoms (are "pre-symptomatic") can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms.

A face covering is used to cover a person's nose and mouth while secured under the chin to minimize a person from transmitting and/or being exposed to COVID-19.

To reduce the spread of COVID-19, the CDC recommends that people wear face coverings in public settings when around people outside of their household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

Does the district plan to conduct health screenings for students and staff?

Students will be expected to be screened at home, prior to arriving at school (check for symptoms such as sore throat, headache, fever, difficulty breathing) per guidelines from the Wayne County Health Department.

On-site student temperature checks are being considered if allowable. Staff screening will take place on site.

What happens if someone in my student's classroom tests positive for COVID-19?

The student/staff member AND all household members of the student/staff member are immediately excluded from school until

- 1) 10 (ten) days since symptoms first appeared
- 2) At least 24 hours with no fever (>100.4), and symptoms have improved (e.g. cough, shortness of breath, diarrhea, etc.)

When the district is made aware of a positive test for a student or staff member, we will work with the county health department for the specific steps that are to be taken.

The Wayne County Health Department will begin contact tracing with those who have had "close contact." Close contact is defined as someone who has been with the person in question for 15 minutes or longer, within 6 feet. It does not include, for instance, everyone in a class. Students identified as a close contact to a confirmed COVID-19 case will be immediately excluded from school until 14 days since the last date of exposure to the person who tested positive.

If we are directed to have a classroom quarantine for a period of time, that class would shift to remote learning temporarily. If only one child is required to quarantine, work would be provided by the classroom teacher remotely via the Google classroom, as is the case currently. If the student misses an extended period of time, homebound instruction could be available. Please understand that these decisions will be made in cooperation with the Wayne County Health Department.

For specific scenarios defined by the health department, visit livoniapublicschools.org/return.

Is the district using a 6-foot physical distancing measurement in classrooms? How is physical distancing being addressed?

The state of Michigan's Return to School Roadmap does not require six feet of distance. The district will work to reduce class sizes; offer a 100% virtual option (Livonia Virtual); add one section to the teaching schedule in order to spread class rosters into six, rather than five sections in secondary; eliminate non-essential furniture from classrooms, to provide added space; and certain classes may be held in large spaces throughout the school, such as a performing arts center or a large conference room, for example, in order to provide as much physical distancing as possible.

Additionally, desks will be separated and face in a single direction. We will replace 2-person desks and tables with individual desks to the extent possible.

Educational staff are recommended to maintain physical spacing or a barrier between themselves and students.

Parents and guests will not be allowed beyond the main office, except for extenuating circumstances.

Floor markings reminding to keep physical space used where lines may form (i.e. - copier/printers machines).

Student locker use will be minimized.

How is lunch being handled at the middle and high school levels?

Additional lunch periods are being added to each of the school schedules in order to lessen the number of students in each lunch period.

In addition to the cafeteria(s) other spaces around and within the school will be utilized to provide as much physical distancing as possible.

Will the district provide personal protective equipment (PPE)?

The district will provide cleansing wipes in every classroom and office, sanitizing spray, hand sanitizer, plexiglass dividers, face shields where needed and disposable masks where needed. Students are asked to wear their own face coverings each day, but schools will have a supply on hand if a student needs a replacement for that day.

How is the district managing health and safety on the school buses?

Students will be required to wear a face mask while on the bus at all times.

Hand sanitizer will be used by students as they enter and exit the bus.

Bus drivers will wear face covering.

Physical distancing where possible; however, students may be seated next to one another on the bus.

Open windows, weather permitting.

Buses will be sanitized throughout the day and at the end of each day.

What types of cleaning supplies will be used to disinfect and clean the schools?

For surface cleaning throughout the school day, staff will use non-bleach, EPA-approved peroxide multi surface cleaner and disinfectant wipes. This product kills 99.999% of germs in 3-5 minutes and kills Norovirus in as fast as 45 seconds.

Hand sanitizer dispensers will be installed throughout the school and in each individual classroom that does not have an individual sink.

Sanitizing wipes (every room, office and department)

Clear barriers (plexiglass shields) at certain designated locations (ie: in offices; at teaching stations; small group instruction tables)

Custodial staff will also utilize electrostatic sanitizing machines.

What is the plan for cleaning schedules?

Flat and high touch surfaces will be cleaned at least every four hours and in between classes at the secondary level or when there is a cohort change.

Disinfecting will occur in all classrooms on a nightly basis. The electrostatic sanitizing machine will be used multiple times each week.

How well is the air circulated in classrooms?

The 2013 bond issue enabled the district to upgrade and update to meet current code. Fresh outside air is brought in and the air in the room is turned over 6-8 times per hour in the average sized classroom.

All air filters are inspected and replaced routinely, typically every 8-10 weeks.

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HEALTH AND SAFETY CONTINUED

How will students have lunch in the elementary classrooms?

Students who bring their lunches from home will get them from their lockers, wash their hands and bring them back to their desk to eat. Students will wash their hands and get their hot lunch delivered to them.

Our youngest students and students with unique needs will be eating in the cafeteria. They will wash their hands, get their lunch from their lockers, and walk down the hallway to the cafeteria. Students will be seated at cafeteria tables, physically distanced from others at their table.

Where will middle and high school students eat lunch?

Additional lunch periods are being added to each of the school schedules in order to lessen the number of students in each lunch period.

In addition to the cafeteria(s) other spaces around and within the school will be utilized to provide as much physical distancing as possible. Hand sanitizer stations will be readily available

How will breakfast be handled?

Students in all grades will do a "grab and go" breakfast as the school day is getting started.

How will special circumstances such as food allergies be handled when meals are in the classroom?
Students with unique needs, such as food allergies, will eat in the school cafeteria.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

My child's evaluation was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. When can I expect my child's evaluation to be completed?

The MET team will be contacting parents to schedule in person evaluations the first week staff are back in session (week of August 31st, 2020) as well as during the student's non-instructional times during the Safe Start September schedule and moving forward. I would like to consider a 100% virtual option for my student. Why do I need an IEP to make that decision?

A virtual program may involve a placement change on an IEP. The IEP team, including the parent, may need to convene an IEP or an amendment to determine how services would be provided in the virtual option. A special education provider will reach out to all students with IEPs who commit to Livonia Virtual.

If 100% virtual option is determined to be appropriate by the IEP team to meet the unique needs of my special education student, how will services (i.e. occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, paraprofessional support) including instruction be provided?

The IEP will outline the delivery of OT, PT, speech, etc. The services would be provided virtually and may include both live therapy as well as guided practice for skills. Paraprofessional support will be discussed at the IEP.

The virtual platform for instruction would be based on each individual students' needs i.e. Common Core State Standards and/or Essential Elements.

What happens if we decide after the first semester or after the first trimester in a 100% virtual program that we want our student to return to in-person learning?

The IEP team would be notified of the desire to return to in-person learning and an IEP or amendment would be convened to discuss the services and location of the program.

Special Education Schedules

What is the schedule for a student with an IEP assigned to general education classes?

Students will follow the general education schedule based on their elementary or secondary grade. IEP services will be provided in class when appropriate or scheduled during non-instructional times.

What is the schedule for a student with an IEP placement in a full time resource program or a center-based program?

Staff will be contacting families to schedule individual sessions (parent/guardian and student) during the week of September 8, 2020. These sessions will include introducing the student to the teacher and classroom procedures. Additionally, the teacher and service providers (as applicable) will be assessing the student's progress on IEP goals and objectives.

The week of September 14, 2020, 50% of students will be coming to school for a two hour session in the morning with the other 50% coming for a two hour session in the afternoon.

Remote instruction will be provided in addition to in person instruction as a part of the remainder of the student's day.

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LIVONIA VIRTUAL

What is Livonia Virtual?

Livonia Virtual is a 100% long-term online option for students. It is intended for students as a year-long choice; however there will be the ability to exit the program at trimester (elementary)/semester (secondary) level. This could impact the class make up as students exit or enter the program.

The program will follow the LPS curriculum and will have LPS teachers leading the instruction. LV will utilize Michigan Virtual where needed for specific classes at the secondary level.

Is there a fee associated with Livonia Virtual?

No, this program is free and is part of Livonia Public Schools.

When is the window for parents to express interest in Livonia Virtual? The window to apply for LV will be from August 4-12.

Why is the window such a short time frame?

The district needs to begin analyzing enrollment and staffing for in-person instruction and Livonia Virtual as soon as possible. This is a significant and complex task to complete prior to the start of the school year.

Will students still be enrolled in LPS if they choose LV?

Yes. All LV students will remain within the district. LPS will receive the per pupil funding from the state for LV students.

Is Livonia Virtual available to students with special needs?

This would be a decision driven by the IEP process -- case by case basis.

Will Advanced Placement classes be offered through Livonia Virtual?

This will depend upon the enrollment numbers for those classes and what courses may be offered through Michigan Virtual.

Will LV classes be taught by LPS teachers? For example, will a Holmes teacher teach LV students from Holmes, or how will this work?

It is our goal to have all LPS teachers teaching in Livonia Virtual. The teachers' courses will not be school-specific. Michigan Virtual classes would not be taught by an LPS teacher.

What does a Livonia Virtual school day look like?

Livonia Virtual students will have the same number of instructional minutes as required for in-person learning by the Department of Education for the State of Michigan.

Instructional time will be split between synchronous and asynchronous learning. There will be a consistent schedule for students to follow each day.

What is synchronous learning?

Synchronous learning is live online instruction, taking place via Google Meet, Loom or Zoom meetings. Students should plan to do synchronous learning for approximately three hours per day. Attendance will be based on attendance during live instruction and work completion.

What is asynchronous learning?

Asynchronous learning entails self-guided lessons to be completed by the student, with adult assistance where applicable. Students should plan to do asynchronous learning for approximately three hours per day. Completion of all assignments and lessons will be mandatory.

Will Livonia Virtual be offered for Young Fives or the preschool programs at Jackson Center?

The Livonia Virtual option is available for students in grades K-12. **Will Livonia Virtual be available for students who are currently enrolled in magnet programs such as Niji-Iro Japanese Immersion Elementary, ACAT, MACT, MSC, CAPA?**

The district is committed to providing elements of magnet programs where possible and there are enough students enrolled from our magnet programs.

ACAT students can participate in Livonia Virtual for Science, Social Studies, Reading and Writing with ACAT specific mathematics instruction.

MCAT, MSC and CAPA students can access most of their courses through a blend of in person and Michigan Virtual courses.

Will students who choose LV be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities such as marching band, athletics, etc.?

Yes, students will be able to participate in extracurricular activities.

Will students who choose LV have "specials" such as art, music and PE?

Yes, elementary aged students will have specials weekly, the same as if they are in person. At the secondary level, we will be offering most of the same electives we offer in person, and for the ones that we can offer, the content could be different in order to teach it virtually.

Will high school students who choose LV be able to participate in choir, orchestra, band, etc?

Yes, students will be able to participate in extracurricular activities.

If a student wishes to return to in-person learning after enrolling in LV, can he or she make that move after the school year has begun?

Students are able to return to in-person learning only at the semester change (middle and high school) or trimester (elementary) change. This is due to the careful balance that will occur with keeping class sizes as low as possible.

If a student is enrolled in LV, will he or she still be a part of his or her home school? For example, if a Churchill student chooses LV, will he or she still remain a Churchill Charger?

Yes. The LV enrollment tracks with the home school, so LV students would remain enrolled with their home school, but coded in the system as "virtual."

Will the Livonia Virtual program have traditional letter grades or a pass/fail grading system?

Standard based grading will be used at the elementary level and traditional letters grades will be issued at the secondary level, both the same as they are in the traditional program.

How will Livonia Virtual be different from the emergency remote learning that took place in the spring?

Spring learning was emergency remote learning that began with enrichment opportunities and moved to new learning. LV will provide a Livonia Public Schools curriculum, in a high quality remote learning environment, based on state standards. It will provide students with engaging activities and self paced work based on the course and content area.