



COVID-19 School Reentry Communication: 2 of 4

June 26, 2020

Dear Lynnhaven Community,

I hope everyone's June has gone by without a hitch. Time is really flying by it seems. I want to take a minute and update you on several things as it relates to reopening in August. This letter will cover:

Status of reopening
Faculty and Staff updates
Staggered Start and End Times
Fees

Status of Reopening:

The majority of the Commonwealth of Virginia is currently in Phase II of the reopening plan. The governor has outlined physical distancing best practices, enhanced cleaning and disinfection best practices, workplace safety guidance and more. We received school reopening guidance from the Virginia Department of Education and the Governor's Office on June 9. The guidance is in step with the Lynnhaven COVID Task Force's School Reopening plan that began in April. We will make this plan public in the coming weeks.

The Commonwealth is scheduled to enter Phase III on July 3rd, which officially permits public and private schools to reopen based on a "reentry" plan mandated by the Virginia Department of Education and the Governor's Office. Lynnhaven Academy is still scheduled to reopen on August 19th.

Faculty and Staff Updates:

I am saddened to inform you that Ms. Kidd has received indefinite orders for active duty. She will not be able to join us this fall as the front office manager. We thank her for her service. There are no plans to fill this position at this time.

Staggered Start and Dismissal:

A survey was conducted several weeks ago as a way to engage you in the decision making process as it related to a staggered start/end time. This stagger will be implemented as a means to mitigate the potential spread of COVID-19 as per the guidance from the Governor's Office. The survey produced a 38% response rate. Of that, 55% desired a start time of 8:00/8:20 and

end time of 1:40pm/2:00pm, 45% desired a start time of 8:40/9:00 and end time of 2:20/2:40. The Task Force convened and came up with a middle ground in terms of a start/end time. Therefore, the staggered start times will be the following: Gold Group 8:00am - 1:50pm and Blue Group 8:20am - 2:10pm.

We received several comments from parents with suggestions to ***not*** follow the Governors and CDC's guidance, because it was "guidance" and not "fast rules." Let us be clear, we will follow the guidance to the extent possible. Not doing so would be irresponsible and put the school community at unnecessary risk. Our goal is to put as many preventative measures in place so that we can return to in person instruction in a safe and efficient manner.

Additionally, there were concerns of "less" instructional time and it was suggested we give more homework to compensate for it. Lynnhaven gives and will continue to give appropriate amounts of homework based on the student and grade. Even though our school day has shortened, we have gained 100 instructional hours with the restructuring of the school calendar that was shared with you in the previous correspondence.

We recognize that ending the school day early presents a burden to many families. Therefore, we will offer after school care for students whose parents cannot pick them up at their designated time. Parents are **REQUIRED** to contact the school in advance, in the event you will be late for pick up. We must ensure that we have appropriate socially distanced space to operate after school. Lynnhaven has received a grant because of COVID-19 which will allow us to offer after school care until 4:00pm without a fee.

Fees

This is a reminder that the \$250.00 technology fee and \$50.00 experiential learning fee will be drafted on August 1st via FACTS. Originally they were slated to be drafted on June 1st, but we elected to push the date back two months in light of COVID-19.

I am looking forward to starting school this August and seeing everyone. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Best,

Johnny