



July 28, 2020

Dear ACT Families,

I hope you are all having a restful summer break. I am reaching out to provide updates from ACT's Reentry Committee, regarding plans for the opening of school. Please remember that the state is releasing new guidance and information each day, and this means plans may change between now and the start of school; however, I am confident that we have developed a plan that allows us the flexibility to adapt to changes that may come our way, with safety as our main priority. I will continue to update you as new information is provided.

This is what we know right now:

- Students and staff will be able to return to the school building in August, with these increased safety protocols:
  - Physical distancing measures will be implemented in all areas of the building – all staff and students should stay 6 feet apart
  - Students and staff are expected to wear masks when inside the building; outdoor space and physical distancing will be used when students and staff need to remove masks
  - The building will be cleaned and sanitized throughout the school day
  - Students and staff will be expected to wash their hands frequently and use hand sanitizer
- Research and data support the use of cohorts, or “family groupings”, to minimize contact with other students and staff within the building. This helps keep the school community safe and will be the basis for our “In Person” model come fall.
- Some students will opt out of “In Person” instruction, and opt to continue virtual learning from home. We will accommodate these students with virtual instruction.
- Many changes are being made in the building to allow for social distancing measures in instructional spaces. There will be more information about this soon.
- We will be moving to a 1:1 technology model for students; each student will be provided with a Chromebook to use at school and at home.

Next Steps:

- Using the “family” (cohort) instructional model, I will be working in collaboration with the ACT Reentry Committee on the details for student and staff schedules.
- Other details the Reentry Committee is working on:
  - Using outdoor space when possible
  - Maintaining our performing arts focus and planning creative ways to share our artistic work in safe and effective ways
  - Addressing the social-emotional needs of students and staff to create a welcoming environment, so everyone feels valued and supported when we return.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions regarding this information. This is a lot to process, and it's a big change from what pre-COVID-19 school looked like. Please know I am here to support you. We are in this together, and will work as a team to do what's best for our school community.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Mallory  
ACT Principal

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