



LAKER SCHOOLS

Anchored in Excellence



August 11, 2020

Dear Laker Families,

Greetings from the Schoolhouse. It's been a busy day here on campus, with many teachers gathering to learn and prepare for all the new challenges that this school year will bring. Our staff is working so hard to provide multiple ways for our students to learn this fall, and we appreciate them so much. They are truly the best.

On that note, we want to share some additional information to help you prepare for the new year. At present, we have over 70 students enrolled in our new Lakeshore Academy in grades DK-12 and we are thankful to hear that this option is meeting a need for our families. As we receive feedback from parents, there are several questions that keep popping up, which we will address below:

Q: *When do we need to make a decision on in-person or at-home learning?*

A: We are setting a deadline of Friday, August 21, so our teachers and office staffs have time to get class rosters in order and plan for the different forms of instruction. We will take class change requests after that date, but we are asking parents to honor this deadline if possible. There will also be a "drop and add" period after school begins for those who wish to try one model and then switch to another. We understand that these decisions are not easy, so we want to remain flexible.

Q: *If I choose the Hyflex model, does that mean I can move freely between in-person and at-home learning?*

A: No. We expect students to make a choice and stick with it, as this makes planning and teaching much simpler for our teachers. If an in-person student gets sick, needs to be in quarantine, or has a pre-planned event that requires them to be out of school, that is fine and is one of the benefits of the Hyflex model. But changing status from day to day without reason is not allowed.

Q: *How will attendance be taken?*

A: Both in-person and at-home learners will be subject to daily attendance through their "engagement" in lessons and assignments. Regular attendance is expected, as usual.

Q: *Is at-home learning teacher-driven or parent-driven?*

A: Yes! ☺ It is both. Our teachers will do their best to deliver quality instruction, but it is essential for parents to be involved in their student's daily learning, especially for younger children. Even in the Fully Virtual model, parents will need to provide structure and discipline in order to be successful.

Q: *Will at-home learning be just like it was last spring?*

A: No, it will not. Last spring was a last-minute effort to provide minimum instruction to our students in a time of many unknowns. This fall, teachers will be expected to deliver a full curriculum with regular assignments and grading. If students or parents are not prepared for this, you may want to reconsider whether at-home learning is the best option.

We will continue to listen to your needs and concerns and provide new information as we can. We appreciate your support and patience along the way!

Go Green,
Laker Administration