As we prepare for the 2020-21 school year, we know addressing the global pandemic will require flexibility.

Our plans are multi-faceted and aim to deliver as many in-person instruction days as we can safely provide, reinforce our learning environments with additional health and safety measures, prepare back-up plans for when all or some of our school community cannot meet safely and provide alternative options for families who for medical or personal reasons need to learn outside of buildings this year.

Whether we are learning from home or in our school buildings this fall, know that the following principles will serve as our road map as we prepare for the 2020-21 school year:

- Ensuring health and safety for our students and staff as we strive to provide effective, meaningful and engaging education.
- Supporting students on all fronts by meeting their unique academic, social-emotional, developmental and physical needs.
- Upholding transparency by communicating clearly and consistently.
- Continuing the work we do to reduce barriers for students, including kids who experience other at-risk factors when they are not in our schools.
- Embracing flexibility, adaptability and resilience as we prepare to navigate uncertain and ever-evolving scenarios this fall.

Our plans are multi-faceted and aim to deliver as many in-person instruction days as we can safely provide, reinforce our learning environments with additional health and safety measures, prepare back-up plans for when all or some of our school community cannot meet safely and provide alternative options for families who for medical or personal reasons need to learn outside of buildings this year.

This fall, K-12 families will choose between a multi-pronged in-person option and an all-online option offered through our R-7 Online Academy.

1. **In-Person Option**

The district flows between three instructional models that aim to offer in-person instruction in the way public health officials believe will keep students and staff the safest at the time. Depending on public health guidance, LSR7 will select which instructional model from which all LSR7 "in-person" students will learn.

- **In-Person**
  Students receive traditional instruction in school buildings each day that have been reinforced with health and safety protocols to limit risk for students and staff to the greatest extent possible. LSR7 schools create as much space between students and staff as possible, while acknowledging that the district cannot ensure six feet of social distance in every situation.

- **Hybrid**
  Students will be assigned to A or B groups that attend school in-person two days a week on a Monday/Tuesday or Thursday/Friday schedule. All students receive instruction virtually on Wednesdays and complete independent work at home for the two remaining days. On Wednesdays, buses and buildings will be deep-cleaned and sanitized.

- **Virtual**
  Students will receive instruction virtually, accessing learning and assignments using district-issued Chromebooks and Schoology.

*If public health or government officials mandate social distancing

2. **All-Online Option**

Whether it be for medical reasons or personal choice, this option is for families who feel their child will be best served through an all-online environment that allows them to learn from home.

- **R-7 Online Academy**
  Both K-12 elementary and secondary programs will be offered through an expanded R-7 Online Academy. In-person extracurriculars are still available.

  Grading/instruction mirrors in-person model; delivered through Schoology and/or Edgenuity.

*If public health or government officials close schools

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The district will ask all LSR7 families to declare which options they plan to opt-in to for their child between July 20 and July 27.

To the Reader: This document should be read with caution as it is a guide for LSR7 decision-making in response to COVID-19 and changing directives from local, state, and federal officials. This plan is a roadmap, knowing that orders and guidance will change. As we have seen in the last several months, there may be circumstances that we cannot predict which will require the district to adjust based on new information.
Family Survey
Here’s What We Learned

The Fall Reopening Family Survey was sent to the parents or guardians of LSR7’s nearly 18,000 students (roughly 10K family units) on June 25 and remained open for one week. We received 7,800 responses.

See lsr7.org/survey for full survey results.

- **Top Three Concerns**
  1. Larger-scale gatherings (cafeterias, assemblies, etc.)
  2. Cleanliness/sanitization of classrooms
  3. Limited ability to socially distance in a classroom

- **Desired Safety Measures**
  1. Daily cleaning and sanitization of classrooms and gathering places.
  2. Readily available sanitizing supplies
  3. Implementing social distancing protocols when possible

Staff Survey
Here’s What We Learned

The Fall Reopening Staff Survey was sent to 2,800 LSR7 staff members on June 25 and remained open for one week. We received nearly 1,600 responses.

See lsr7.org/survey for full survey results.

- **Top Three Concerns**
  1. Limited ability to social distance in a classroom/work site
  2. Larger-scale gatherings (cafeteria, assemblies)
  3. Cleanliness/sanitization of classrooms/work sites

- **Desired Safety Measures**
  1. Daily cleaning and sanitization of classrooms and gathering spaces
  2. Readily available sanitizing supplies
  3. Implementing social distancing protocols when possible
Programs & Support

Special Education
Special education teachers and teams will continue to provide specialized instruction and support in accordance with a student's individualized education program (IEP). IEP teams will determine the appropriate supports needed and have protocols in place to support delivery of services in virtual ways. In a hybrid situation, students who are served in special programs may be considered for a four-day week.

Pre-K
The team at Great Beginnings Early Education Center has developed in-person and virtual plans for our early learners in the Head Start, Early Head Start, Early Childhood Special Education, Title I Preschool and Parents as Teachers programs. Pre-K parents should expect direct communication providing program-specific information for their child.

Social-Emotional and Trauma Support
Teachers will have additional training on well-being and social-emotional support for students. School Counselor and Education Therapist lessons and individual meetings will be available for students in need.

Summit Technology Academy
Summit Technology Academy student programs will mirror LSR7 high schools protocols.

Before and After School Programs
BASS will follow restricted guidance on group sizes and utilize a waitlist at a site that reaches a maximum number of students.

- Maximum of 60 students at each elementary site while maintaining stable groups of 15 or less
- Maximum enrollment of 24 preschoolers age 3-5 while maintaining stable groups of 12 or less
- Maximum enrollment of 18 middle school/high school students
- Large group activities, events and field trips will be eliminated

Transportation
Due to the number of bus riders, the district will not be able to seat all students six feet apart and is continuing to monitor guidance as it relates to bus transport. Masks will be required on buses and assigned seating utilized. However, per public health guidance, exceptions may be permitted for children with special needs and children who are under 4 years old. In the spirit of helping our families who rely the most on transportation, please sign up for transportation this year only if you plan on using it consistently. Buses will be routinely cleaned and sanitized, including between routes.

Reminder:
Lee’s Summit R-7 Schools’ first day of school is scheduled for Aug. 26, 2020.
Frequently Asked Questions

What factors will LSR7 use to determine which delivery model in-person students are receiving instruction?
While LSR7 plans utilize guidance from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, as well as local government officials, district plans will continue to first and foremost rely on Jackson County Health Department direction. The district will continue to partner with public health officials to navigate evolving scenarios and will base our instructional models based on Jackson County Health Department mandates.

How will families declare which option they plan to select for the fall?
The district will ask all LSR7 families to declare which options they plan to opt-in to for their child between July 20 and 27. On July 20, 2020 you will receive an email that provides you the link to declare which instructional option you would like to select for each of your children. This is not the same process as registration, which opens July 29.

How do educators apply to be an R-7 Online Academy instructor?
Information about how our teaching staff can request or express interest in a transfer to R-7 Online Academy will be shared as the number of student declarations are determined.

What are the expectations for the days students are not in school if the district shifts to a hybrid model?
If we transition to a hybrid schedule due to health department guidance, students will be expected to participate fully in course work and engage with expectations regarding work completion, grades and daily attendance.

How does R-7 Online Academy curriculum differ from in-person curriculum?
Both instructional methods align with Missouri Learning Standards set forth by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The method of delivery with instructional activities and resources may be altered. The expectation of rigor and daily engagement with instruction will be the same for both methods of instruction.

Can students still participate in extracurricular activities and/or sports in-person as an R-7 Online Academy student?
Yes, you can still participate with your home school if district/county protocols permit these activities.

What if I change my mind about my child's school format? Can families switch from in-person to all-online or vice versa?
Due to the delivery of instruction, switching formats will be difficult and we are asking families to commit to a semester. If there are extenuating circumstances, please communicate first with your child's principal.

If individual or district-wide school closures prompt virtual learning, how will that learning be different from our emergency spring instruction?
Virtual learning this year will focus on new learning as well as the continued connections with teachers. Students and families should plan for more rigorous expectations of engagement through instruction, work completion and project work that mirrors in-person instruction more closely.

To review more FAQs, visit lsr7.org/reopening.
Health and safety remains a top priority in all of our plans.

The Lee’s Summit R-7 Schools District will continue to implement the most up-to-date guidance from local and state public health and education officials.

While we know that safety recommendations may evolve and change, we plan to implement the following health and safety protocols to make our learning environments as safe as possible for our students and staff.

Classroom Environment
- Spread out seating to create as much physical distance between students and staff as possible
- Eliminate combination classes and events
- Remove “comfortable” classroom items – i.e. pillows, blankets, etc.
- Eliminate choice seating within the classroom
- Go outdoors for instruction during small parts of the day as possible

Cleaning
- Clean and sanitize our school environment frequently throughout the school day and deep clean each school nightly
- Provide extra sanitization directed toward high contact points throughout the school day
- Ensure the availability of soap and paper towels in restrooms as well as disinfecting supplies in classrooms and school spaces

Health Protocols
- Masks are worn any time an individual is in close contact to others
- Educate students on proper prevention techniques (mask-wearing, handwashing etc.)
- Expect parents and staff to complete at-home screenings. (See page 6)
- Consider temperature screening per public health guidance
- Create a supervised, isolated area for the care of students who are ill; separate from spaces where students seek health support for general needs
- Require mask-wearing and assigned seating on school buses
- Provide masks and other PPE (such as gloves) to staff and students as needed
- Require staff to limit the number of people in break rooms, conference rooms etc. to those that can socially distance in that space

Course-Specific
- Split high school choir, band and orchestra sections; move classes outdoors, when possible
- Additional instrument and equipment cleaning and sanitizing
- Modify labs and other classes with high-touch activities
- Additional cleaning and sanitizing for high-touch supplies
- No combination classes at elementary level
- Enforce health hygiene protocols (hand washing; mask wearing etc.) for student experience programs (internships, A+, etc.)

Visitors to School
- Hold parent events, including conferences, virtually
- Limit school visitors
- Install plexiglass as a barrier to protect front-office staff
- Enforce health and safety protocols for all visitors and volunteers

Late Start Wednesdays & Summit Rise
- Continue Late Start Wednesday; cap Summit Rise based on common space availability
- Require families to make reservations for the week ahead
- Place students in common areas or classrooms to social distance and work on individual activities

School Activities
- Large events (i.e. concerts, plays, sporting events, etc.), extracurriculars and athletics will be determined by county and district guidance

For more health and safety guidelines, visit lsr7.org/reopening.
At-Home Screening Procedure

The screening of students and staff must begin at home. Parents should evaluate their child before school daily by taking their temperature, gauging how they are feeling, and by making sure that they can accurately answer no to all questions below. Staff will follow similar protocols. If a question can be answered yes, an individual should not attend work or school, and contact a medical provider or JCHD.

Communication will be sent prior to the start of school and as a periodic reminder.

1. Is your current temperature in excess of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit?

2. Have you or anyone in your household had any of the following symptoms:
   - sore throat
   - cough
   - chills
   - loss of smell
   - loss of taste
   - shortness of breath for unknown reasons
   - body aches for unknown reasons
   - fever at or greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit

3. Have you or anyone in your household cared for an individual who is in quarantine or is a presumptive positive or has tested positive for COVID-19?

If the students are cleared by the parents and sent to school, LSR7 will conduct a temperature check of students as they enter their classroom. Staff will be asked to look for visual signs that students might be experiencing symptoms. LSR7 nursing staff will conduct temperature checks of students as needed.

If a student’s temperature check reads equal to or in excess of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, it is recommended to wait a couple of moments and retake the temperature. If the readings again read equal or above the 100.4 mark, then parents or guardians will be called to take their child home. Staff who experience symptoms at work will also be sent home.

COVID-19 Procedures

What protocols will LSR7 follow when a student or staff member is confirmed to have COVID-19?

Lee’s Summit R-7 Schools will follow Jackson County Health Department guidance for each case. Public health directives may include the addition of specific safety measures in a school environment, the temporary closure of a classroom or school building and other risk mitigation measures. These directives may or may not include mass notification to a school community.

Those whose medical provider diagnoses them with a presumed or confirmed case of COVID-19 will be asked to stay home until they are released by the local health department or a medical provider.

Students or staff members who have been identified as a “close contact” of a person confirmed to have COVID-19 by the health department will likely be asked by public health officials to quarantine.