

Eastern Lebanon County School District School Instructional Reopening Plan



August 3, 2020
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Assistant Superintendent

*ELCO Together: One community, one
school district, creating learning
opportunities for each student, every day.*

The Decision-Making Process



Considerations for Opening



Parent and Staff Feedback



Learning Options



Flexibility for Families



Fluid Movement

Assumptions



- What we know now is based on current information available and everything continues to change.
- COVID-19 continues to be a rapidly evolving, global pandemic.
- Oftentimes, information, published evidence, and studies occurring in different geographical locations and at different times are often contradictory.
- Burdens placed on parents/guardians, the community, and the local economy by school closures are substantial.
- In-person instruction is better than online instruction.
- Consistency across local districts can play into the decisions we make
- "It is anticipated students will probably need to stay home for at least part of the school year." - PDE

Phased Reopening Plan Overview



The ELCO School District developed a Health and Safety Plan and will continue to monitor the plan throughout the 2020-2021 school year and update as needed. This Plan is up for approval by the ELCO Board of Directors on August 3, 2020.

An Athletic Plan was developed and approved by the ELCO Board of Directors.

Phased Reopening Plan Overview



The Pennsylvania Department of Education requires each school entity to create a School Instructional Reopening Plan which will serve as the plan for instruction.

According to PDE, it is anticipated students will probably need to stay home for at least part of the school year.

The Plan will honestly reflect on the successes and challenges from the Continuity of Education Plan from the spring and develop goals and action steps for improved student outcomes.

Our Priorities



Safe & Healthy
Return



Staff Support



Student Learning
&
Support

Committee Structures

Student and Staff Wellness (*Safe and Healthy Return and Staff Support*)

- Social-Emotional Learning
- Safety
- Health

Operational (*Safe and Healthy Return*)

- Cafeteria
- Transportation
- Facilities
- Technology

Instruction/Academic (*Student Learning and Support and Staff Support*)

- Modes of Instructional Delivery
- Accountability
- Schedules
- Equity and Access

Teacher Workgroups

Start with Why



Share **WHY** decisions are made



Share **WHAT** we are doing

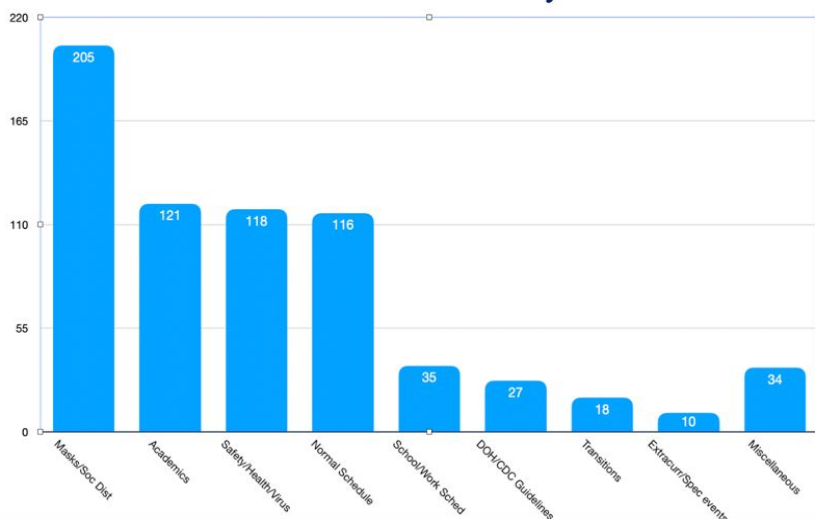


Share **HOW** actions will occur



Top Concerns

(from June Parent/Guardian Survey)



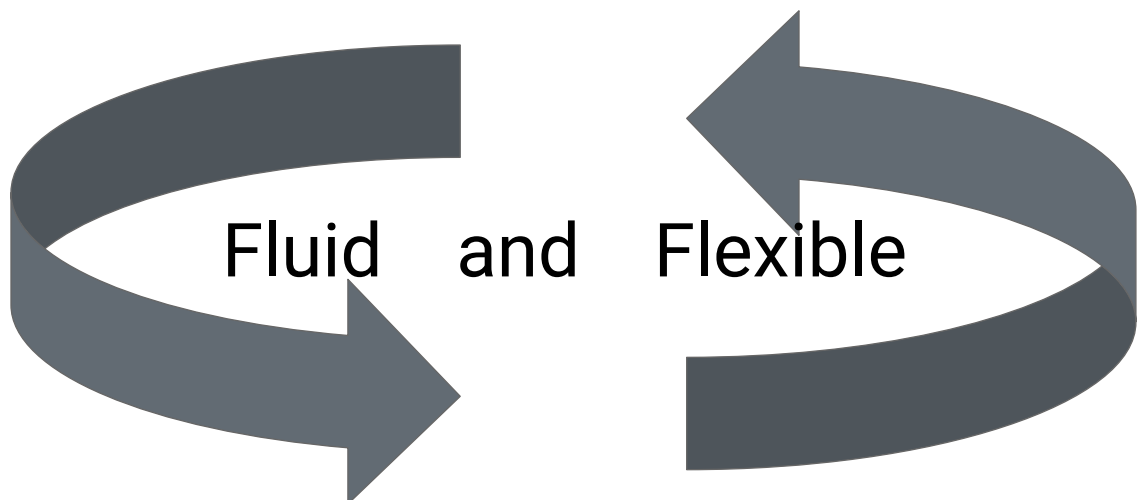
Summary of Stakeholder Committee Meeting

- In-person instruction is preferred over remote learning
- Synchronous (live) instruction helps build relationships, increases engagement, and holds everyone accountable
- Students should not be online all day for 6-7 hours. Provide some offline activities and time for peer-to-peer collaboration
- Online work needs to be mandatory and graded on a traditional grading scale
- Elementary students need to take iPads home from first day of school to help them learn how to use them at home
- Consider parents and students who need to work with multiple teachers and multiple buildings. Develop standardized communication across K-12
- Parents need more support for online tools and iPads to help support students
- Provide clear guidelines for participation and consequences for those students who do not follow the guidelines
- Consistency is needed in all aspects of learning

Considerations for the Instructional Plan

- Instructional plan must comply with all elements of the Health and Safety Plan
- We must consider what is best for ALL students and not just the majority of students
- We understand the strain on family schedules and child care when students are learning from home (232 families from survey)
- Time will need to be built into schedules to allow for deep cleaning, hand-washing, and changes in building traffic flows
- All decisions are based on the guidance we have right now
- All decisions are made with the intent to keep consistency throughout the first marking period (November)
- Everything will continue to change as more information becomes available
- We don't have all of the answers, yet

Instruction for 2020–2021



ELCO Learning Options 2020–2021

In-Building Instruction

Students attend school in school buildings as much as possible, commonly found in the Green and/or Yellow Phase

Depending on the phase and implementation of the Health and Safety Plan, in-person instruction may be in a hybrid model.

In-Building Instruction

- Health and Safety Plan developed using guidelines for social distancing from CDC and Department of Health
- Students attend class in the school building to the maximum extent possible according to the Health and Safety Plan
- Classroom teachers are assigned based on certifications and qualifications
- Bussing transportation is provided
- In-building instruction may require a hybrid schedule with a mix of in-school and at-home instruction

Elementary K-5 Schedules

- Elementary students can be contained in classroom cohorts and schedules can be developed to minimize their movement and interaction with other students according to the appropriate phase of the Health and Safety Plan. For example:
 - Delivering lunch to classrooms
 - Special area teachers pushing into regular classrooms, when possible
 - Limiting special area class rotations
 - Limiting Grades 4-5 rotations by having teachers pushing into classrooms
 - Changing arrival and dismissal procedures

Elementary K-5 Schedules

- All elementary students will attend school 5 days each week.
- iPads will go home with students each night and are expected to be brought back to school each day, fully charged.

	M	T	W	Th	F
Weekly Schedule	In School	In School	In School	In School	In School

Secondary 6-12 Schedules

- Secondary schedules require students to transition from class to class and teacher to teacher throughout the day
- Secondary students do not remain in cohorts throughout the day
- Specialized courses require meeting in classrooms appropriate for the course
- Teacher certifications require students to be taught by qualified teachers that are subject-specific
- Many classes are leveled for academic, college prep, honors, Advanced Placement
- Graduation requirements allow different pathways for students
- Building schedules must align with Lebanon CTC schedules for students in half-day programs

Secondary 6-12 Schedules

- Seniors may opt out of courses that are not needed for graduation. They may arrive late, dismiss early, or be off campus mid-day, depending on schedules.
- Secondary will operate on a Blue/Gold Hybrid Schedule. Students will be divided into Blue and Gold Groups
- Special needs student populations, based on IEP, will be encouraged to attend everyday.

	M	T	W	Th	F
Weekly Schedule	In School	In School	Asynchronous Online Instruction	In School	In School
	Online	Online		Online	Online

ELCO Learning Options 2020–2021

In-Building Instruction	Online Synchronous
Students attend school in school buildings as much as possible, commonly found in the Green and/or Yellow Phase	Students learn from home commonly found in the Red Phase and is an improved version of remote learning.
Depending on the phase and implementation of the Health and Safety Plan, in-person instruction may be in a hybrid model.	ELCO teachers provide synchronous and asynchronous instruction according to school building schedule

Online Synchronous Instruction

- Teachers will live stream portions of their in-building lessons for students learning from home
- Students **will not** be live streaming into lessons for 6 hours each day
- Offline activities will be provided for students to complete between lessons
- Students follow schedules established by the building (Period 1...etc.)
- Students working from home in blue/gold schedules will participate in this instruction when at home
- Attendance in live streaming lessons is mandatory and requires participation with student video turned on in Zoom
- Keeps students learning in ELCO curriculum for fluidity and flexibility
- Younger learners require adult support and supervision
- If we are required to be 100% online, this will be the instructional model used
- Wednesday activities **are not** synchronous (live) for secondary students. The learning on Wednesdays will be asynchronous for all secondary students.

ELCO Learning Options 2020–2021

In-Building Instruction	Online Synchronous
<p>Students attend school in school buildings as much as possible, commonly found in the Green and/or Yellow Phase</p> <p>Depending on the phase and implementation of the Health and Safety Plan, in-person instruction may be in a hybrid model.</p>	<p>Students learn from home commonly found in the Red Phase and is an improved version of remote learning.</p> <p>ELCO teachers provide synchronous and asynchronous instruction according to school building schedule</p>

ELCO Learning Options 2020–2021

In-Building Instruction	Online Synchronous	ELCO Virtual Academy
<p>Students attend school in school buildings as much as possible, commonly found in the Green and/or Yellow Phase</p> <p>Depending on the phase and implementation of the Health and Safety Plan, in-person instruction may be in a hybrid model.</p>	<p>Students learn from home commonly found in the Red Phase and is an improved version of remote learning.</p> <p>ELCO teachers provide synchronous and asynchronous instruction according to school building schedule</p>	<p>Students learn from home and are able to remain part of ELCO and receive an ELCO diploma.</p> <p>Instruction provided by mostly ELCO teachers in an asynchronous format</p> <p><i>Requires student self-motivation</i></p>

ELCO Virtual Academy

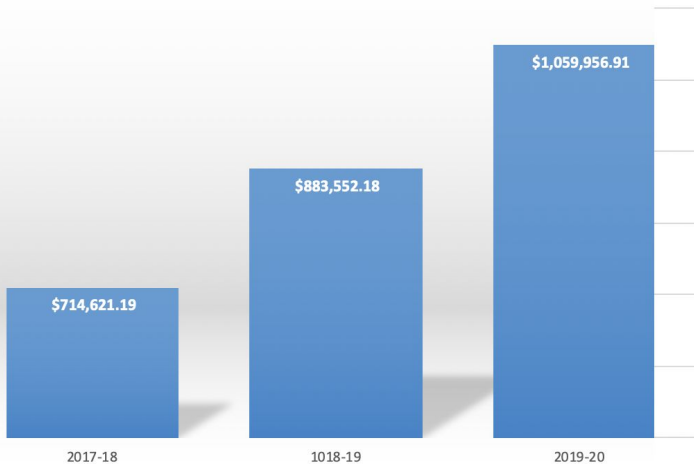
- Asynchronous learning provided for students in K-12 using Lancaster Lebanon Virtual Solutions (www.Localcyber.org)
- Mostly ELCO teachers
- Uses same curriculum as some of the cyber charter schools
- Students remain part of the ELCO School District
- Provides ELCO diploma
- Permits students to attend CTC (conditional on acceptance)
- Does not align with the scope and sequence of ELCO curriculum
- Younger learners require a lot of parent/guardian support and supervision

ELCO Virtual Academy

- Students who are successful in a Virtual Academy:
 - Have a strong work ethic
 - Can easily read written directions and learn and comprehend what is read
 - Can easily express their thoughts and communicate them in writing
 - Can work without a lot of adult supervision and/or have parent/guardian support
- Common myths about Virtual Academies/Cyber Charter Schools
 - It is easier than coming to school
 - Not having to adhere to a schedule is a benefit
 - Homeschooling and cyber schools are the same
 - Cyber Charter Schools are free to taxpayers in the District

ELCO Cyber Charter School Costs

Annual Cyber Charter Cost



Cyber Charter Enrollments			
Year	Regular Ed	Special Ed	Avg. Cost per Student
17-18	51	18	\$10,357
18-19	59	17	\$11,626
19-20	51	23	\$14,520

Non-ELCO Learning Options 2020-2021

Homeschool	Cyber Charter School	Private School
Students learn from home	Students learn from home	Students attend a private school
Instruction provided by parents with no curricular or instructional support from ELCO	Students are no longer considered ELCO students and learn in an asynchronous format	Students are no longer considered ELCO students while attending a private school
	<i>Requires student self-motivation</i>	
	<i>Negatively impacts ELCO School District's Taxpayers</i>	

Homeschooling

- Not a program run by the District
- Parents/guardians are responsible for the educational program and providing the curriculum
- Requires parents to work with a homeschool evaluator to conduct an end-of-year evaluation of learning
- Requires parent/guardian to have the minimum of a high school diploma or GED
- Requires a signed/notarized affidavit to be submitted to the district by August 1


Items for Families to Consider

- How will our children learn best?
- What is the best balance for our family for in-person vs. online instruction?
- Which schedule works best for our family? Synchronous? Asynchronous?
- How much adult supervision is needed and available in the home while learning is taking place?
- What other family situations do we need to consider?

Next Steps and FAQs

- Information should be arriving in the mail this week.
- Families are being asked to commit to the learning options.
- Forms may be completed online in PowerSchool.
- There will be a window during the first 2 weeks of school to make changes and then options will be locked in for the first marking period when we will ask for new commitments.
- Videos will be uploaded to the website with information about the learning options provided by ELCO

ELCO Learning Options 2020–2021

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		<i>Requires student self-motivation</i>

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