

# **LNC's SCHOOL REOPENING FAQs**

The <u>LNC Reopening Plan</u> is a comprehensive resource for families that details our Health and Safety Protocols, Social and Emotional Support, (how each Plan would look at LNC plus some additional information. If, after carefully reviewing the <u>Reopening Plan</u> and these FAQs you still have a question, please submit it <u>HERE</u> and an answer will be e-mailed to you and potentially added to the FAQs for other families to reference. Also, there is no longer a separate "HS only" FAQs.

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### **General Questions**

- What will school look like when LNC reopens in August for the 2020-2021 year?
  - On June 8, 2020, every public school district in North Carolina received information from the State on safely reopening for the 2020-2021 year. Click here to review the State's reopening "tool kit." From this information, we learned that school would take on one of three formats ranging from all students at school every day exercising "minimal social distancing" to complete remote learning with no students physically at school. Every public school in NC was instructed to create a plan of implementation for all three scenarios laid out by the State:
    - Plan A: Minimal Social Distancing Measures
    - Plan B: Moderate Social Distancing Measures (hybrid of plans A & C)
    - Plan C: Complete Distance Learning
  - On July 22, 2020, after the LNC Board of Education met in special session, we announced that LNC will reopen on August 13, 2020 under the State's <u>Plan C</u> for at least the first four weeks of school, through at least September 11, 2020. Information about Plan C and the other two plans can be found in the <u>LNC Reopening Plan</u>.
- 2. How does Plan C look at LNC? What about Plans A and B for when we switch to those?
  - We formed a Reopening Task Force composed of school personnel from key areas with important expertise to develop each plan. They include teachers,

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administrators, health personnel, counselors and tech facilitators. The Task Force met regularly over the summer. A group of 26 parents with varying experience and expertise, many in the science and medical fields, advised the Task Force. The <u>LNC Reopening Plan</u> sprang from the work and its purpose is to provide our families with detailed information about health and safety protocols, social and emotional support and what each plan looks like at LNC. Initial information about Plan C can be found there and parents can expect additional details about Remote Learning to be shared in the weeks leading up to the first day of school, August 13.

- 3. Will my student's remote learning experience be the same as the fourth quarter of last year?
  - Quite possibly not! During last year's fourth quarter, LNC's 1:World tech program and our history and familiarity with E-Learning for grades 5th-12th was very helpful at the HS and MS from a technology and logistics standpoint. (HS and MS students possessed school-issued and supported technology equipped with needed software, knew how to do attendance and assignments using Schoology, had a familiarity with an "E-Learning" structured day, etc.) However, some of our students and teachers struggled with the switch to remote learning and teaching for an entire quarter and our elementary population had no prior experience with distance learning.
  - This quarter, parents can expect a robust, high-quality level of remote learning in August which will serve to better engage your student and lead to a higher level of academic development than may have taken place in the spring. We look forward to providing you with more information and further details about our plans over the first few weeks of school. Here is a general overview:
    - Academics Engaging, interactive lessons over a blend of asynchronous and synchronous platforms. Our ITF's (Instructional Technology Facilitators) worked hard all summer to identify, vet and provide training to our teachers on a plethora of tools for virtual learning environments such as Screencast-O-Matic, EdPuzzle, Pear Deck and more. They also researched and shared, through live and recorded webinars, best practices for instructing and engaging students in a virtual environment with our teachers. LNC purchased upgraded licenses and premium accounts with Zoom, Schoology and other learning platforms specific to various schools and grades. LNC also purchased a variety of hardware to support distance learning including high definition (HD) document cameras with a built-in microphone to allow teachers to record presentations, HD cameras with magnifying capability for up-close demonstrations and video streaming, Bluetooth wireless microphones for capturing audio and more. The Student Seminars on Wednesday will offer our students an opportunity to receive individual support from their teachers as needed in a one-on-one or small group setting (tutoring) in a virtual or in-person environment.

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- Counseling Proactive interaction initiated by the student's counselor. This will take on various forms depending upon the student's grade level/development, i.e., counseling support will look different for kindergarten versus 5th grade and various needs/stages i.e., freshmen assimilating to HS need different support from seniors applying for college.
- Organization Due to remote learning challenges, we realize that Schoology will be leaned on heavily. It is more important than ever for our students and parents to navigate its content more easily and conveniently and rely on a consistent level of use from teacher to teacher. Therefore, this year Schoology will offer a standard look and level of organization from course to course and be used consistently from teacher to teacher. Overall, students and parents can expect a simpler, more streamlined experience that allows them to better manage the student's academic world.
- Student & Family Connections Although it has been necessary to focus on our students' learning, social emotional wellbeing and the tools to support them, parents and students can expect a concerted effort on LNC's part to also support student and family connection. This will look like clubs and other opportunities offered to help engage the student beyond their academic day and connect them with other students. Depending upon the circumstance, this could take place in a virtual or an in-person small group setting. For our younger Knights, it will be important that we provide tools for parents to connect with one another so they can initiate some of these connections. The <a href="LNC Family Directory">LNC Family Directory</a> should help facilitate connections for all LNC parents. For some students, we know that athletics is a significant part of their school experience. Athletics pose unique challenges during a pandemic. We will continue to follow guidance from State authorities on sports and will take all actions to try to provide an athletic program to the extent possible.
- 4. Now that we know we will open in Plan C, what will the schedule be?
  - For ES
    - Students, K-4, are expected to check in between 8:30-9:00 AM daily (M-F) on their teacher's homeroom course page in Schoology. The student must be the one to do this from their account (not the parent's account). This attendance check-in will be handled through a one question Test/Quiz each day, i.e., Q: Are you here? A: Yes. Students' teachers will send more information on how to login to the student's Schoology account and do daily attendance.
  - o For MS -
    - Students, 5-8, are expected to check in within the first 5 minutes of each period daily, with the exception of the Student Seminar days on Wednesday where they will check-in to their first period class (7th grade

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will check into their homeroom teacher's course since first period is an elective) by 9:00 AM. This check-in will also serve for the student's attendance requirement. Students who are new to LNC MS have been given instructions and practice on how to perform this duty on a daily basis in their New Student Basics Schoology course. Students will utilize Wednesdays to seek and receive individual assistance and support from their teachers as needed and to work independently.

- Period #1 8:00-8:40
- Period #2 8:45-9:25
- Morning Break 9:30-10:00
- Period #3 10:00-10:40
- Period #4 10:45-11:25
- Period #5 11:30-12:10
- Lunch 12:10-1:00
- Office Hours: 1:00-2:00

#### o For HS -

- Students, 9-12, are expected to check in within the first 5 minutes of each period daily, with the exception of the Student Seminar days on Wednesday where they will check-in to their first period class by 9:00 AM and utilize the day to seek and receive individual assistance and support from their teachers as needed and to work independently. This check-in will also serve for the student's attendance requirement.
- Period #1 7:45-8:15
- Period #2 8:20-8:50
- Period #3 8:55 9:25
- Morning Break 9:25 9:55
- Period #4 9:55-10:25
- Period #5 10:30-11:00
- Period #6 11:05-11:35
- Period #7 11:40-12:10
- Lunch 12:10-1:00
- Office Hours: 1:00-2:00
- 5. Why was Wednesday chosen as the Student Seminar Day instead of Friday like last quarter?
  - The principals and teachers who were part of LNC's Reopening Task Force felt that the middle of the week was the best time to afford our students an opportunity for a more individualized check-in with their teacher. Wednesdays help assure that students will not go an extended period of time without having the chance for support if needed.

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- 6. After the first four weeks of school, is it possible that LNC would move to another plan?
  - Yes. We will reevaluate this decision on a continuous basis utilizing established metrics to ensure that it is well informed and supported by data. These metrics consider North Carolina's current phase, state and local positive test percentages, current hospitalization rates and LNC data once it becomes available, including stakeholder input. Our goal is to move to in-person learning as soon as the metrics indicate we can safely do so. At our September board meeting, the board will review these metrics again and we will notify our families of where we stand.
- 7. How can I see how many, if any, cases of COVID-19 LNC students or staff have had?
  - Once school opens, we will provide a link for parents to view an updated number of cases that have occurred at LNC. No information about the positive cases will be disclosed other than the date and school of the occurrence.
- 8. How will I get my EduKit for my MS student?
  - If you ordered an EduKit for your MS student you can pick it up at the middle school Tuesday, August 11 between 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Please clearly print your student's name and grade on a large piece of paper and be prepared to show it to PTO volunteers through your driver's side window.
- 9. How will I get my EduKit for my ES Student?
  - If you ordered an EduKit for your ES student you can pick it up at the elementary school Saturday, August 8 between 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. If you are unable to pick up your EduKit on Saturday, August 8, you will need to contact the ES Office to arrange for pickup.
- 10. Can I return my EduKit?
  - No, the deadline for cancelling the EduKit order has passed.
- 11. Can I still order an EduKit?
  - The window for ordering through EduKit is closed for the year, however parents can contact the PTO to inquire whether there are any extra EduKits available.
    - MS Melissa Hughes at <u>me1hu9hes@yahoo.com</u>
    - ES- Betty Gerring at blgerring@gmail.com
- 12. I will be buying my child's supplies on my own. Where can I find the supply list?
  - Here is the MS Supply List and here is the ES Supply List.
- 13. Does my HS student who will be taking art this year need to purchase an art pack from LNC for their supplies?
  - Yes. Ms. Matocha and Ms. Hale will share a link with their art students to a PayPal button to purchase the required art supplies.

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- 14. Does my MS student who will be taking art this year need to purchase an art pack from LNC for their supplies?
  - Yes. If your student has an art elective class for 1st quarter, they are required to purchase the MS Art Supply Pack. Students will need these supplies at home while in Plan C and will need to bring them to school if we return to Plan B, as students will not be able to share supplies in school. Parents should purchase an Art Pack here and plan to pick it up between 10:00 AM 1:00 PM on Tuesday, August 11. We recommend entering campus from Verhoeff Drive (by the HS) as we anticipate continued construction traffic at the entrance from NC Hwy 115. We will once again incorporate a REVERSE Traffic Flow through our MS carpool lanes for this event (i.e., enter the line so the MS is on your left and the field is on your right and exit the campus by taking a left at the end of the school building using the driveway that is south of the school. You must have either a printed receipt or receipt on a device to verify purchase for pickup.
- 15. Will LNC's PTO still be active now that we are opening school in Plan C?
  - Yes! The PTO is currently determining how and when they will meet virtually. We will share more information on their behalf once we have it. The PTO's greatest source of revenue is LNC's lunch program, which they manage, and our parents carry out on a completely volunteer basis. That revenue was impacted due to closing in-person school last March and will continue to be impacted until we reopen for in-person learning. However, the PTO is developing creative ways to continue to support our teachers while providing opportunities for our parents to help. Please stay tuned for more information, and in the meantime, if you have ideas, questions or wish to be involved, please contact one of our three PTO presidents.
    - HS PTO: Candace Williams at candaceww@yahoo.com
    - MS PTO: Molly Drouin at mdrouin@Incharter.org
    - ES PTO: Nichole Burton at simplydelightfulcc@yahoo.com
- 16. When we return to in-person learning how will my student driver get a parking pass?
  - As soon as the decision is made to return to in-person learning, we will post to Schoology the steps required to apply and receive a student parking pass.

### **Academic Questions**

- 17. What if my child has an IEP or 504 plan?
  - Students will follow their general education lesson plans with their appropriate accommodations and teachers will be available to answer any questions. If there are other special circumstances, the EC case manager or the counselor (504's) will communicate additional information regarding individualized learning

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- activities and goals. Both the EC case manager and the related service providers will coordinate and communicate how services will be delivered.
- 18. Will my elementary student receive technology since he will be working from home five days a week?
  - No, however if your family needs technology or is having internet access issues, please contact Director of Technology, Mr. Lon Chang - Ichang@Incharter.org
- 19. Is LNC recommending a certain type of technology?
  - While any device that can access the internet will work (tablet, laptop, desktop) if you are purchasing technology specifically with your child's remote learning at LNC in mind, we recommend the iPad since that is what is used in the ES classrooms and is what students are issued at the MS. Again, we are not suggesting that families should purchase an iPad for their child if they are satisfied with the technology they already have. This is only guidance if the family is already in the market for a new device.
- 20. What if I have a question about Schoology?
  - Please reach out to our technology facilitators:
    - Gr. 5-8: Marianne Rogowski <u>mrogowski@Incharter.org</u>
    - Gr. 9-12: Jamie Lord <u>ilord@Incharter.org</u>
    - Gr. K-4: Either Ms. Rogowski or Ms. Lord
- 21. Is LNC hosting the SAT on August 29?
  - No, we are not. Parents can go to the College Board website to see if there are any alternative testing sites in the Charlotte area.
- 22. Since these tests continue to be cancelled, what will happen if my senior cannot take or retake the SAT or ACT?
  - Many universities and colleges are waiving the requirement to submit ACT or SAT scores for the next admissions cycle (spring, summer and fall 2021). Seniors should check the websites of schools which they are interested for the latest information. On July 23 the UNC System Board of Governors, which oversees these 16 institutions, voted to go "test optional" for the next admissions cycle due to the limited test-taking options because of COVID-19. This means students who wish can send their scores, but it is not mandatory and will not be held against those who do not. See information <a href="here">here</a>.

### **School Events**

- 23. What "back to school" events will still take place this year?
  - We have adjusted the <u>master calendar</u> through Friday, September 11. Some traditional back to school events will be modified to become virtual. We will share

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updated plans as they become available. For now, we have left those taking place from September 14 and after in the event we return to Plan B. We will all need to be ready to pivot, so calendars should be in pencil rather than pen at this point.

- High School
  - Freshman Kick-Off July 27-30
  - Rising Senior Photography July 27, Aug 3
  - Freshmen & New Student Orientation Virtually on Aug 11 @ 2PM via Periscope with archived version available to be viewed later
  - Back to School Night TBD
- Middle School
  - 5th Grade & New Student Tech Pick Up Aug 3
  - 5th Grade/New Student Orientation TBD (here is a link to a <u>virtual</u> middle school tour)
  - Back to School Night TBD
- Elementary School
  - Kindergarten Assessments & Meet Your Teacher Week of Aug 3
  - Grades 1-4 Meet Your Teacher Aug 13-21
  - Back to School Night Sept 10 more details to follow

### **Athletics**

- 24. Will LNC have fall sports?
  - At this point all tryouts for both HS and MS fall sports are postponed until at least September 1. This complies with direction from the North Carolina High School Athletic Association. We will continue to update our community as we receive new information.

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