



STUDENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Back to School

Opening Plan

2021-2022

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Note: In the event that any changes are made, the revised terms and conditions of this plan will be posted on the school’s website. Student Leadership Academy may change, add, cancel, remove, or otherwise modify this document at any time without prior notice. Thank you.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Opening Plan

2021-2022

INTRODUCTION

We know the last few months have caused anxiety and uncertainty about what this next school year will look like. With the ongoing pandemic, opening our campus entails some increased risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus for all concerned because attending school involves daily human contact amongst children and staff, who will then be in contact with family members and others within their community. Student Leadership Academy has spent the last few months extensively planning for the safest return to school possible. We have collaborated with the Florida Department of Health, the Florida Department of Education, the Sarasota School District, medical professionals, multiple education groups, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

This document explains the policies and procedures we are employing to mitigate COVID-19 related risks while at school. That approach is built around health monitoring procedures as well as classroom and school day procedures. The information in our plan will provide clarity around the practices and procedures SLA has established to minimize exposure to our community. This plan in no way warrants that COVID-19 or any other communicable disease infection will not occur through participation in our in-person, face-to-face learning environments.

Student Leadership Academy will also make every effort to ensure that our students' educational opportunities will continue regardless of the current environment. Our Contingency Learning Plan (CLP) will address how content will be delivered to students if they are required to quarantine. The CLP will explain which platforms and resources students will use for core instruction and which supplemental materials and resources will be used to enhance core instruction.

During these unprecedented times, partnerships and communication between parents, teachers, and support staff will be an essential component of being successful in monitoring our student's progress, not only academically but socially and emotionally as well.

GENERAL PREPAREDNESS AND PLANNING

- Student Leadership Academy has and will continue to collaborate, share information, and review plans with local health officials to help protect the whole school community. School plans are designed to complement other community mitigation strategies to protect high-risk populations and the healthcare system and minimize disruption to teaching and learning.
- This document was compiled using the COVID-19 guidelines and recommendations for schools and childcare programs published by the CDC, State of Florida, DOE, ELC, DCF, and the Sarasota Health Department. SLA's operating procedures meet or exceed the minimum standards of care and will be updated as new information or additional guidelines are made available.

[State of Florida COVID-19 Response](#)

[CDC Guidance for Schools and Child Care](#)

[CDC Considerations for Schools](#)

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONTACT AND COMMUNICATION

Communication:

- Updates and communication, as events occur, will be conducted via the following platforms:
 - Connect Ed phone calls and emails
 - School phone calls
 - School emails
 - School website
 - School letter

Note: It is extremely important that you provide the school with updated contact information.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Arrival Procedures: [Student Drop-Off Map](#)

- Our school's traffic patterns have been designed for the safety and security of your children. It is critical that you understand and comply with our arrival and dismissal procedures regularly.
- Parents will remain in their vehicle as they are not permitted to walk their child to their classroom or to the cafeteria.

Arrival Times:

- Students should not arrive before 7:00 AM.
- The first bell rings at 7:25 AM.
 - Students should be in their seat in their first period class by **7:30 AM** or they will be considered tardy.

Late Arrival:

- Students arriving late must call the main office upon arrival.
 - Stop at the designated arrival zone and remain in your car
 - A staff member will come out to your car to meet your child

Departure Procedures: [Student Pick-Up Map](#)

- Parents/Guardians will no longer be allowed to wait at school prior to their scheduled pick-up time.
- Please review and follow the updated parent/guardian pick-up procedures and loop map.
- Please pull up into the correct designated pick-up line.
- Walk-up departures must call ahead.
- **Students will only be released to those listed on the Student's Contact List.**

Dismissal Times:

- Students should only be picked up at the designated locations.
- ALL STUDENTS MUST BE PICKED UP BEFORE 2:30 PM.
 - Bus Riders will dismiss at 2:00 pm
 - Car Riders will dismiss at 2:05 pm
 - Walkers & Bike Riders will be dismissed at 2:15 pm

Early Departure:

- Early departure must be scheduled in advance with the main office.
 - Contact the office and indicate the exact time of your child's early departure
 - Office staff will notify the classroom to make arrangements for assisting the child with departure at the pre-arranged early departure time

- At the pre-arranged early departure time, please pull up to the curb and call the front office
- A staff member will deliver your child to you as soon as possible

NOTE: Early departures will be delayed during bus and car rider dismissal times.

Bus Transportation: Provided by the Sarasota County School District

- The following safety protocols are expected to be followed on school buses:
 - Students must follow all bus rules and procedures; repetitive violations could result in loss of bussing privileges
 - Students will practice social distancing when possible and sit in their assigned seat
- To find your Bus Stop, please use the following link [find my bus stop](#).

NOTE: This link is not for SLA pocket pickups in North Port.

BREAKFAST/LUNCH

Meal Service: Provided by the Sarasota County School District

- All meals will be **FREE** for ALL students during the 2021-2022 school year.
- Visit [meal service](#) for more detailed information.

FACE COVERINGS/MASKS

- Face coverings/masks are optional.

HEALTH SCREENING

- Daily employee and child health screenings are important to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19 at school.

Parent Screening of Child Prior to Morning Arrival:

- Parents are encouraged to be on alert for signs of illness in their children and to keep them home when they are sick. **Parents are asked to conduct a pre-screening each day to avoid any possible discovery of illness before morning drop-off.** If a student is identified as having symptoms listed in the screening criteria below, the child should not be brought to school, the parent should notify the school office, and follow the procedures in the section: COVID-19 Symptoms at School – Children.

Staff Self-Screening Prior to Arrival at School:

- Staff members will conduct a self-screening prior to arrival at school. If a staff member self-identifies as having symptoms listed in the screening criteria below, she/he will contact the designated administrator, not come to work, and follow the procedures in the section: COVID-19 Symptoms at School - Staff.

Health Protocol:

- All children and staff who meet any of the criteria below may be denied entry and/or sent home:
 - Exhibiting any of the following symptoms if the symptom is of greater intensity or frequency than what is normally experienced:
 - Fever (Temperature 100° F or higher) or chills

- Uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- Rash
- Severe headache, especially with a fever
- Loss of taste or smell
- In the previous 10 days, had contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19
- Is under investigation for COVID-19

NOTE: Your child should STAY HOME if they show signs or have any of the above symptoms.

Staff Screening of Child at School:

- Any child with a temperature over 100°F (low-grade fever) will be sent home to monitor for 24 hours.
- Staff may conduct multiple temperature checks of each child and adult throughout the day, or as needed.
- Staff will make a visual inspection of the child for signs of illness which could include flushed cheeks, rapid breathing, or difficulty breathing (without recent physical activity), fatigue, or extreme fussiness. If the child exhibits any of these symptoms at arrival or at any point during the day, the child will be isolated, and parents will be required to pick up their child.

COVID-19 PROTOCOL AND PROCEDURES

COVID-19 Symptoms and COVID-19 Cases in School:

- This section provides details and procedures for the COVID-19 symptom, exposure, and diagnosis within the school community:

COVID-19 Symptoms at School – Children:

- If COVID-19 symptoms begin while at school, the child must be sent home as soon as possible. Sick children will be kept separate from well children and staff contact will be limited as much as reasonably possible, while ensuring the safety and supervision of the child until they leave.
- Staff will follow these isolation procedures:
 - Classroom staff will inform the office staff of symptoms exhibited
 - Office staff will take the child to the isolation location in the school clinic
 - Student will be given a mask for temporary use
 - Office staff will contact parents to come to school to pick up the child
 - A Clinic staff member will supervise the child until the parent arrives
 - Parents will be advised of the latest instructions for re-entry to school based on the local health department recommendations. (For example, physicians note will be required if it is determined to be a negative COVID-19 case, or in the case of a positive test, they will need to be isolated for 10 days.) The Physician and/or collaboration with Sarasota Health Department will instruct families on how to proceed
 - Once a parent has left with the ill child, the isolation room is cleaned and sanitized by maintenance staff
- Classrooms and materials used by the child who is sent home will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

- Families are encouraged to coordinate decision-making around the child’s care with the family health care provider if there are specific health concerns, chronic disease, or complex social or emotional dynamics in the home.
- In the case of a child who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and does not get evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, the child is assumed to have COVID-19, and cannot return to school until the individual has met the criteria for return outlined by the Sarasota County Health Department.

COVID-19 Symptoms at School – Staff:

- Staff is encouraged to monitor their health and required to perform daily health screenings for symptoms of COVID-19. Staff is encouraged to stay home if they are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 and to immediately contact their healthcare provider.
- Staff exhibiting new symptoms of possible COVID-19 at school should:
 - Put on face covering regardless of social distancing
 - Notify Administration
 - Removal from the classroom and sent home for further evaluation
 - Follow the recommendations of their healthcare provider
- In the case of a staff member who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and does not get evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, the individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to work until the individual has met the criteria for return outlined by the Sarasota County Health Department.

Positive Case of COVID-19 in the Classroom - Children or Staff:

- If COVID-19 is confirmed in a child or staff member in a classroom community, all persons regularly in the community will be required to adhere to the directives of the Sarasota County Health Department. The following actions will be taken by school administration:
 - Contact school district health department
 - Notify staff and parents/caregivers that a member of the classroom community has been diagnosed with COVID-19; confidentiality will be maintained
 - Notify the school community that a child in the school has been diagnosed with COVID-19; confidentiality will be maintained
 - Close the specific classroom for any recommended time determined by the health department. This may also require self-quarantine for all children and staff in the classroom who may have been in close contact with the person diagnosed with COVID-19.
 - Complete disinfecting procedures

*Decisions about classroom closure will be made in consultation with the Sarasota County Department of Health.

COVID-19 Exposure - Staff and Children:

- If a staff member or child has been identified as having close contact to someone who is diagnosed with COVID-19, that staff member or child must follow the guidance issued by the Sarasota County Health Department and self-quarantine. Close contact means being closer than 6 feet apart for more than 15 minutes while the person was infectious. The staff member or family should notify the school so proper procedures can be initiated. It is expected that all members of our community practice social responsibility while off campus and outside school hours when it comes to social distancing practices.

Contact Tracing:

- Contact tracing is a strategy used to determine the source of an infection and how it is spreading. Finding people who are close contacts to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, and therefore at higher risk of becoming infected themselves, can help prevent further spread of the virus. Those contacts might include family members, co-workers, or health care providers.
- School staff has been asked to keep and update classroom seating charts and a list of people they are in close contact with and follow the criteria for COVID-19 Exposure - Staff and Children if they have been in close contact with someone in the Classroom Community that has tested positive for COVID-19 OR if the staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19.
- The Sarasota County Health Department, with the help of the school, will conduct all Contact Tracing
- **PROTOCOLS FOR SYMPTOMATIC OR COVID-19 POSITIVE STUDENTS:**
 - If the student is asymptomatic and tests positive for COVID-19, they may return to campus with a negative diagnostic COVID-19 test at any time (now including rapid-antigen tests); **or**
 - (Home rapid-antigen tests: While home antigen tests are available at local retailers, we will only accept home tests that can produce a lab report including: **the date the test was taken, the student's full name, and the student's date of birth.** If the home test cannot produce a report including this information, the student may go to any local testing facility to obtain either a negative PCR or rapid-antigen test, as these facilities provide lab reports). **Home rapid tests must meet the above criteria.**
 - If the student is symptomatic and tests positive for COVID-19, they may return to campus without a negative test 10 days from symptom onset (must be fever free for 24 hours); **or**
 - The student may return to campus with written permission from a medical doctor (MD), osteopathic physician (DO), or an advanced nurse practitioner (ARNP).
- **PROTOCOLS FOR ASYMPTOMATIC STUDENTS WITH EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 (Quarantine):**
 - The student may return to campus with a negative diagnostic COVID-19 test taken no earlier than the fourth day of quarantine (now including rapid-antigen tests); **or**
 - The student may return to campus without a negative diagnostic COVID-19 test after seven days have passed since their date of exposure.
 - If the student becomes symptomatic, the protocol in the above section must be followed.
- **PROTOCOLS FOR SYMPTOMATIC OR COVID-19 POSITIVE STAFF:**
 - If staff test positive for COVID-19, they may return to their worksite after 10 days of isolation.
- **PROTOCOLS FOR STAFF WITH EXPOSURE TO COVID-19 (Quarantine):**
 - If staff are asymptomatic they can take a PCR test on day 6 and return with a negative result; or
 - If staff decide not to take a test on day 6, they may return to work after day 10.
 - It is recommended that staff who develop symptoms during a quarantine take a COVID-19 test to determine results.
- **COVID-19 QUARANTINE EXCEPTIONS – STUDENTS & STAFF:**
 - **If a previously positive student is re-exposed within 90 days from the date their symptoms started, or their first positive diagnostic COVID-19 test was taken (if they had no symptoms), they will not be required to quarantine.**
 - **If a fully vaccinated student is exposed and it's been at least two weeks since their last dose of the vaccine series was received, they will not be required to quarantine.**

Quarantine and Isolation – Definitions

From the CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

Quarantine

Quarantine is used to keep someone who might have been exposed to COVID-19 away from others. Quarantine helps prevent spread of disease that can occur before a person knows they are sick or if they are infected with the virus without feeling symptoms. People in quarantine should stay home, separate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from their state or local health department.

Isolation

Isolation is used to separate people infected with the virus (those who are sick with COVID-19 and those with no symptoms) from people who are not infected. People who are in isolation should stay home until it is safe for them to be around others. In the home, anyone sick or infected should separate themselves from others by staying in a specific “sick room” or area and using a separate bathroom (if available).

Travel Protocol:

- Any student or staff member traveling internationally or on cruise ships will be expected to follow the protocol listed below.
- If the student or staff member is not vaccinated, they have two options:
 - They can return on their 8th day post-travel if they test negative on a PCR no earlier than their 3rd day post-travel
 - They must stay home for 10 days post-travel without testing

Communication:

- Student Leadership Academy will communicate:
 - With families, if their child has been in close contact with someone at school who has tested positive for COVID-19
 - With staff, if they have been in close contact with someone at school who has tested positive for COVID-19
 - With the entire school community if a classroom has been closed temporarily due to COVID-19 exposure

Monitoring Absenteeism:

- Student Leadership Academy administrative staff will monitor absenteeism among children and staff using SIS. Any unusual patterns will be considered when evaluating if there is a need for temporary or long-term building or campus closure due to COVID-19 exposure. Decisions about extending closure will be made in consultation with the Sarasota County Department of Health.
- Procedure for Recording Community Attendance
 - All attendance will be recorded by front office staff into SIS, verifying and updating the health screening log for the community. Include the reason for student’s absence; contact a parent if the child is not in an attendance.

PRECAUTION, PREVENTION AND PROTOCOL

Preventative Measures:

- Our school in preparation for safety precautions including but not limited to:
 - Health screening and temperature checks when symptoms are noticeable
 - Limiting visitors on campus except for necessary business
 - Hand sanitizer installed in each office, classroom, cafeteria, and bus
 - Social distancing as much as feasible

- Scheduling frequent cleaning and sanitization of all learning spaces and high touch surfaces
- Installing touchless water fountains/filling stations
- HALO LED UV HVAC purification systems have been installed throughout the school which kills mold, mildew, allergens, bacterial and viral pathogens to further improve the chances of eliminating viral particles from our interior spaces
- Parents are asked to screen for health before sending to bus or school, and not send students to school until fever free for at least 24 hours

Health and Safety Protocols and Strategies: (On Campus)

- Social Distancing
 - Students and staff are expected to maintain social distancing to the greatest extent possible
 - Classroom desks will be distanced as much as possible
 - To minimize student interactions during class transitions, release times will be staggered
 - Designated traffic patterns in hallways for students to ensure social distancing
 - Personal water bottles and use of water bottle filling stations will be permitted
 - At dismissal, students will utilize designated exits to leave campus
- Cafeteria and Lunch Protocol – Food services provided by the Sarasota County School District
 - Students will have lunch at staggered times to ensure social distancing
 - Social distancing will be maintained while in serving lines and designated areas
- Meetings
 - All meetings must be scheduled in advanced and may be held virtually
 - If a live meeting is held, the meeting should be held in a location where social distancing guidelines can be maintained
- Limiting Visitor Access
 - Currently, non-essential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving other groups are not allowed during the school day (e.g. mentors, vendors, family visits, lunch with students)
 - Specialized programs requiring student interaction with a mentor/champion/coach will be conducted virtually
- Temperature Checks
 - Temperature readings above 100°F (low-grade fever) will be sent home to monitor for 24 hours
 - 24 hours or at least one full academic day

NOTE: Morning temperature checks will not be administered as in the previous year.

- Handwashing and Hand Sanitizing recommended during the following transitions
 - Entry to school (from car/bus)
 - Transition between class/lunch
 - After use of restroom
 - Before leaving the classroom for the day/dismissal
 - Hand sanitizing stations will be placed in high traffic areas (building entrances, cafeterias, media centers)

Follow Five Steps to Wash Your Hands the Right Way

<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

- Student Leadership Academy follows a detailed cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitization practice and has a detailed plan for each classroom and all common areas.
- These efforts include the following:
 - Staff will routinely clean, sanitize, and disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched, especially materials, as detailed on the Cleaning and Sanitization checklist
 - All bathrooms will be cleaned and disinfected regularly throughout the day
 - Our custodian will follow a specific daily cleaning check list that includes disinfecting light switches, doorknobs (inside and out), commonly used surfaces, sinks, counter tops, computers, phones, keypads, paper towel dispensers, bathrooms, tables, desks, floors, hallways, etc.
 - [ULV Spraying Technology](#) will be used to disinfect and sanitize our environments at the end of each day

Clean and Sanitize Materials:

- Materials will be cleaned and sanitized frequently throughout the day. Students will assist with cleaning their own materials, after use, as part of their practical life exercises.
- Materials that children have placed in their mouths or that are otherwise contaminated by body secretions or excretions will be set aside until they are cleaned by hand by a person wearing gloves.
- Machine washable cloth materials will be used by one individual at a time and will be laundered before being used by another child.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Procedures if an infected person (staff or child) has been in a school building:

- SLA will close off areas used by the individuals with COVID-19.
- Our custodian and staff will clean and disinfect all areas used by the ill persons, focusing especially on frequently touched surfaces following the [CDC's guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting](#).
- SLA will follow any additional recommendations or requirements set by the Sarasota County Department of Health.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Products

- Student Leadership Academy uses disinfecting products that are EPA-approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19.

Nightly Application:

- [Ecolab Surface Peroxide](#) based disinfectant 45 second kill claim registered with EPA/CDC
- [Neutral Floor](#) disinfectant cleaner

Weekly Application:

- [Mediclean](#) fogging product

CONTINGENCY LEARNING PLAN

Overview:

- The Student Leadership Academy has developed a logical and strategic plan of action that we believe is in the best interest of all our students, families, and staff. All SLA teachers will have a contingency plan available for any student that is quarantined or contact traced for an extended period of time.

- Teachers will communicate with those students how to access materials for their class. Class websites, accessible via SLAvenue.org, will guide students and families on each teacher's plan and link how to access the materials/applications for that class. Each plan may utilize Blackboard, Google Classroom, IXL, and/or textbook websites (HMH or Big Ideas Math).
- Teachers will be available during their planning periods via email or other means of communication. This is not concurrent learning, rather it is a way to convey to students and families of the current instruction while absent students are unable to attend school due to quarantine and/or contact tracing.
- Any student that is absent has the same number of days to make up work as the length of their absence. For example, if a student is absent 6 days, they will have 6 days to make up their work. If a student is able to complete work provided according to the Contingency Learning Plan, it will alleviate the accumulation of work after their absence. It is in the best interest of the student to complete any necessary and provided work in a timely fashion.

COMMITMENT TO EACH OTHER

As Student Leadership Academy is employing enhanced health and safety measures within each learning environment and across the entire campus, we need your commitment to help protect our community by following family safety measures at home.

Please see following acknowledgment:

"I acknowledge and understand that participation in school activities or programs at Student Leadership Academy during the COVID-19 pandemic presents certain risks beyond Student Leadership Academy's control. I know these may exist regardless of whether Student Leadership Academy controls or attempts to control such risks and even if Student Leadership Academy exercises the utmost care in trying to prevent anyone from getting injured or sick."

Together, we will get through these challenging times with patience, compassion, and cooperation.