

Lincoln Academy

Principal's Report to the Board

April 2020

The mission of Lincoln Academy is to help all students attain their highest social and academic potential through an academically rigorous, content-rich educational program in a safe orderly, and caring environment.



Remote Learning

Lincoln Academy started remote learning on March 16th following the same timeline and guidance of the district's closure of school buildings to limit exposure to COVID-19.

Timing

- We just completed our 3rd week of remote learning.
- We will continue remote learning through May 15th.
- The last week of school will be a time to return school materials and return personal items to students.
- Students have from Tuesday to Monday to complete course work.
 - Teachers post daily work online by 8:30 each day (Tuesday through Friday); however, some grade levels post the entire week on Tuesday.
 - Allowing students to take a week to complete work allows families that can not complete the work daily more time to complete the work and also take the urgency off teachers to respond right away all day long.
 - Teachers have specific office hours from 9-10 am and 7-8 pm Tuesday-Friday where they are available immediately for student questions.
 - However, teachers are answering questions all day long.
 - Teachers are trying to provide some sort of connection weekly with students via Zoom or Google chat.
- Teachers plan and prepare (video lessons) on Mondays.
 - The emphasis is quality over quantity. Most grade levels will not complete their year-long plans.
 - Our school building is only open on Mondays for staff. No children are allowed in the buildings.
 - Families can pick up needed learning materials on Mondays through the drive-thru.

Expectations Elementary Workload

- Reading, Writing, Math - 4x a week
- Core Knowledge 2x a week
- 3ish hours of active learning a day
- Continue to celebrate student's birthdays
- Incorporate community check-ins weekly
- Students have Tuesday to Monday to complete work

Expectations of Grades 5-8 Workload

- Follow Block Schedule

- Math and English everyday
- Students have Tuesday to Monday to complete work
- No more than 1 hour each in Math and Language Arts per day
- No more than 45 minutes a day in History, Science, STEM, Tech (for every other day)

Electives/Specials Teachers

- No expectations of electives during remote learning
- Specials teachers record facebook live to post for later viewing
- Specials teachers will continue to provide activities for the various grade levels through Goolge Classroom

Attendance

- During this time of remote learning, student engagement is key
 - Attendance is being taken on Tuesday and Friday each week
 - At this time, we are only concerned about one elementary student and one middle school student who appears to be not engaged and not checking in with the teachers. Ryan is working to make a connection with those 2 families.

Grading

- CDE has given no specific recommendations and has urged districts to be flexible.
- As schoolwork moves online during the coronavirus pandemic, grading/evaluation of student work will look different.
- How do we fairly assess students when they have limited access to teachers, some have limited access to technology and the internet, and varying degrees of parental support at home?
- Teachers are working on preserving some level of accountability and not penalizing students for difficult circumstances.
- The emphasis on this time will focus on ensuring students understand the “big ideas” of a subject and preparing students as best we can for the next grade level.
- Therefore, teachers are giving feedback to students and participation grades
 - A limited number of grades are being posted in Campus in grades 2-8
- The grade that a student earned as of the grading period concluding prior to March 13th, 2020, the day before our first week of remote learning, will serve as the lowest possible grade a student can receive for this semester as long as the student continues to participate.
- Students will be able to improve upon this grade for the remainder of this semester by participating in remote learning.
- The end of year report card will note in the comment section the progress the student has made in meeting end of year content expectations during the third trimester. Additionally, the report card will note if the student will be promoted to the next years’ grade.

Tests

- None given- rather teachers are to ask critical thinking question embedded in the work students complete

Celebrations of students and staff

- Currently, staff can still give out Pride Paws to students and staff digitally
- We are talking about the end of year awards ceremonies and how to continue to give recognition to students

- 8th Grade continuation ceremony will not take place, but again are thinking of creative ways to recognize and celebrate those students

Communication with staff

- I have a communication log in which I am recording my communication and connections with staff by phone, text, in-person (on Mondays 6 feet away), or through Zoom.

Open Enrollment

Grade	Number Enrolled for 20-21	Projected Number	Number of Openings	Number of siblings waiting	Number Waiting 3-6-20	Number Waiting 4-1-20
KAM	17	22	5	0	0	1
K Full Day	66	66	0	0	79	82
1	90	88	-2	0	28	29
2	86	84	-2	0	18	20
3	86	84	-2	1	19	19
4	84	84	0	1	17	17
5	84	84	0	2	22	27
6	90	84	-6	0	52	53
7	80	84	4	2	17	19
8	80	80	0	2	5	5
Total	763	760	-3		257	271

- Open enrollment numbers continue to be strong even through remote learning
- Just this week, the school offered 5 full day kinder spots to make up for the low numbers in half-day kinder
- An additional half-day student was added to our waitlist this week and the call was made to offer that position as well
- Families have 3 days after they receive the notification to confirm or deny the position offered to them
- The five year budgeted K-8 headcount is 750

State Standardized Testing/MAP testing/READ Act

CDE pauses the 2019-2020 state standardized test. The administration of end-of-the-year assessments, including the Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS), will be paused for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year due to extensive school closures throughout Colorado to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Colorado Education Commissioner Katy Anthes announced today.

“With the extraordinary actions we are taking to prevent the spread of COVID-19, it’s clear that we need to press pause on our CMAS tests this year,” Commissioner Anthes said. “Students and educators need to feel a sense of stability and normalcy before state tests can be administered and produce valid results. This also

means we plan to pause our school and district state accountability system as it relates to state assessments for a year.”

“I’m a big fan of accountability and transparency in public education, but we will simply have to forgo incredibly useful data on student achievement for a year to help contain the virus,” said Colorado Gov. Jared Polis. “Right now, students, families, and educators need to be focused on doing everything they can to keep families safe and stable. It is clear that COVID-19 will put extraordinary stress on our education system for the coming weeks and months. In order to ensure our schools and educators are able to spend as much time as possible on online instruction in a difficult situation, I support the decision to pause assessments and school accountability for this year only.”

Making the decision to pause testing now allows schools and districts to concentrate on determining ways to deliver continued instruction to the extent they are able during this unprecedented disruption in education, Anthes said.

The Department will continue working with schools and districts that are already identified for improvement to help support instruction, including options for instruction during and after school closures.

MAP Window

The district is providing an optional MAP window for a select few students that might need data points. Lincoln will not be administering the optional MAP spring testing to any students.

READ Act Testing Suspended for End of Year Testing Window

CDE is suspending spring K-3 READ Act assessment requirements for state reporting purposes. CDE will not collect Spring reading assessment data and instead will base READ Act per-pupil intervention funding for the 2020-21 school year on 2019-20 information.

Staff Update

<u>Saying Goodbye to</u>	<u>Staff Moving to a Different Position</u>	<u>Positions Open</u>	<u>New Staff</u>
Jennifer Frost (retiring) Kurt Henning (Music)	Jennifer Roberts to Full-Day K Brittany Tomsick to 80% Sub Heather Trelease to PreK Matt Spahn to Instructional Coach	M/S English teacher Music teacher Special Ed teacher Leopard Care Positions: Part-time Director • (25 hours a week) 2 Part-Time Program Leaders • (16 hours a week)	Katelyn Wright - 3rd grade Lindsey Richie - 5/6 Science Jessica Simmons - 7/8 STEM

Value Awards Winners

Congratulations to Leigh-Anne Turano, Katie Will, Ashleigh Betz, and Jess Alley! They are this year's recipients of Jeffco Values Awards, and we will add their names to our plaque in the lobby. These award winners were nominated by the team from last year's recipients to receive this special honor.



Exemplary Performance: [Leigh-Anne Turano](#)

Leigh-Anne does so much behind the scenes that many are not aware of for Lincoln Academy. She always is willing to step in and help or support without ever a complaint.



Integrity: Katie Will

Katie operates on the first-grade team with such sincerity and compassion. She is acutely aware of professionally handling situations with students and families.



Teamwork: Ashleigh Betz

Ashleigh is always willing to help wherever she is needed whenever she is needed. Her commitment to the DSS team and the students she serves is genuine.



Valuing People: Jess Alley

Jess is always warm and welcoming to students and families. She makes a wonderful first impression of our school. She continually exhibits kindness and caring in her interactions with everyone.