
VENTURE ACADEMY

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Venture's 2020-2021 Reopening Plan

1. What basic strategies will Venture employ to mitigate the spread of Covid-19?

On campus, Venture will emphasize (1) symptom screening prior to entry, (2) the wearing of masks, (3) physical distancing wherever possible, and (4) the regular use of disinfecting strategies.

2. What will the school schedule and options "look like" in the Fall?

We have developed a basic schedule and configuration that is able to flexibly respond to changing conditions while also accommodating important needs of our parents and students. These needs include such things as at-home learning options, the need for daily in-person school attendance where both parents work outside of the home, the need to flexibly reduce the number of in-person students where needed, and through all of this maintain a schedule that doesn't need to change drastically to respond to changing conditions.

In this plan, all students will fall into one of the following categories:

- a. students who choose to attend in-person daily.
- b. students who have chosen to be at-home daily attending live streamed classes,
- c. students who choose to attend in-person classes every other day while attending the live stream classes for the other days.

This arrangement provides flexibility in responding to situations of possible Covid-19 related issues and does so with the least amount of disruption to students' education and daily schedule.

Our school starting and ending times Monday through Friday will be:

8:10 am - 2:00 pm K8

8:10 am - 1:50 pm High School

*No early out day on Wednesdays.

This modified ending time will give teachers the needed time to plan for instruction and provide support to all students.

3. How will at-home learning be provided?

We are planning to "live stream (audio and video)" all classes to allow students at home to participate in real time via Google Meet or Zoom. Students will be able to hear and see the teacher, ask questions, and interact with peers to the extent practical.

Coursework will be managed and accessed through the Google Classroom platform.

This means that students at home will be doing the same basic work and lessons as

those attending in-person. Note: for K-2, printed class packets will be available where live stream participation is not practical.

Students who may be temporarily ill or unable to participate in the live-streaming classrooms will be provided school work and support in the same manner as has been done in years past when students are ill. Parents will need to call in to excuse the student's absences and initiate school support from teachers and staff.

4. Will at-home live-stream learning be graded the same as in-person classes?

- a. Yes. Live-stream learning will be similar to in-class learning. Students will be expected to complete the same assignments and participate in class to the fullest extent possible through live-stream broadcasts and other digital tools.

5. Will masks be required on campus?

- a. Governor Herbert has ordered that masks be worn in all public schools by students, teachers, staff, and all campus visitors. Venture Academy will support the mask mandate. The most recent data from several studies and numerous locations across the country support the effectiveness of wearing masks as a means of reducing the transmission of COVID-19 and other similar illnesses.
- b. Due to some existing health conditions, some students may be unable to wear a mask for long-periods or at all. In such cases, parents must provide a doctor's note to the school stating that the student is unable to safely wear a mask. Students who are unable to wear a mask will still be required to participate in daily symptom checks and to maintain physical distancing protocols.
- c. **We encourage students to practice mask wearing before school begins** as it can take some time to get used to the feel of continuous use.
- d. Each student will be provided one mask on the first day of school if they want it.
- e. The cloth face masks must cover the mouth and nose.
- f. Masks may be of any color, design, or pattern. The only exception is scary, overly silly, or offensive masks (offensive would include, for instance, representations of illegal drugs or drug use paraphernalia, weapons, inappropriate language, etc.)
- g. There will be opportunities for short mask breaks when possible.

6. What if my student forgets their mask?

Masks will be available at symptom screening stations at the entrances to the building and in the front office for students who need one.

7. How will drop-off and pick-up work?

At morning drop-off, students will proceed to their assigned check-in location **with masks on**. Symptom screenings, including temperature, will be conducted prior to entering the building.

K8 check-in locations:

Kindergarten-2nd grade: North Doors/Entrance
3rd-5th Grades: Main Front Doors/Entrance
6th-8th Grades: South Doors at the Hallway that connects to the Art Room wing

Venture High School check-in locations:

All students will enter the main front doors, but in two separate lines based on the first letter of the student's last name (A-K) and (L-Z). There will be signs indicating which line to join. More specific information on this will be made available prior to the start of school.

8. How will Daily Health (Symptom) Checks be conducted?

- a. **Self-monitoring.** The best way to prevent illness is to avoid exposure and this must begin at home. Students, families, and school personnel should conduct Daily Health Checks at home prior to arrival at the school and self-monitor for any symptoms that may occur throughout the day. The simple rule is, "Stay home if you are sick."
- b. **Symptom Screening upon entry.** All persons entering the building will be screened for symptoms of Covid-19. Students and staff will not be able to enter the building if they have a fever above 100°F or a dry cough AND fatigue or difficulty breathing/wheezing. Other combinations of symptoms may also lead to a decision to have a student or staff member go home.

9. Can I still visit the school during the day?

- a. Visitors are limited to those who are essential. Random drop-by visitors are not allowed.
- b. Parents/visitors to the high school should call the front office upon arrival to determine their needs. Where practical, business will be conducted without parents coming into the school.
- c. Parent visitors to K8 are asked to limit visits to essential and/or scheduled appointments. When entering the building, use the doorbell system.
- d. Visitors who enter the building will be symptom screened at the office prior to entry into the school.

10. If a student or teacher tests positive for COVID-19, will all the students and faculty who have had contact with the individual be required to enter quarantine?

There are many variables that will affect Venture's response to a confirmed COVID-19 case within our community. Such cases will be immediately reviewed by the school's administration and the local health department. Whether or not others will be required to quarantine will depend on several factors, such as the proximity of the infected individual to others, the duration of time the individual spent with others, and whether or not a mask was worn by the infected individual and those who may have come into contact with the individual. Venture will follow the recommendations of the health department. The more teachers and students

follow safety guidelines, the less likely they will have to quarantine in case of a confirmed case within the community.

11. My child is high-risk. Do I need to notify the school?

Parents may notify the school of a high risk condition of their child related to COVID-19. This will allow the health department and the school to work together to determine the best response for a high-risk student should the need arise. At-home learning should be considered for high-risk students.

12. For families who choose to have their students present in-person half of the time and live streaming the other half, what does this look like in practical terms?

Preferred Option:

Two days at-school (AB cycle*), two days at-home (AB cycle), repeat. Students will attend in person for two school days and then be home for two school days. For example, students will be at-school Monday and Tuesday, at-home Wednesday and Thursday, and then at-school on Friday and the following Monday, then at-home on Tuesday and Wednesday, and so on (see attached calendar).

The reason this two days at-school and two days at-home option is preferred is that it coordinates well with our middle school and high school where AB cycles will be used and it keeps things simplest to complete a full two day AB cycle, then be at-home for a full AB cycle, then at-school for an AB cycle, and so on. This makes it so that a given family, even if they have students in K-5 and 6-12, can travel to school together. In other words, it keeps them on the same at-school/at-home schedule.

This arrangement also helps the school to more easily keep track of who is in-person or live streaming on any given day.

Students who are participating in this option will be assigned to either the “green team” or the “purple team” which will serve to alternate the days they are present (we only want half of those participating in this option present on any given day). A calendar of AB day cycles is attached that shows when each team will be present at-school versus at-home. If you are assigned to the green team, you will be at-school on all green days, and at-home on all purple days. You will receive your color assignment by August 26th.

If you are carpooling with another family who is also choosing this option, please note that in the space provided in the form.

What if we can't make the preferred option work for us?

Customized Schedule based on Family Constraints. If it is not possible for you to manage option 1 above, we can work with you to determine a schedule. For instance, suppose that it will work for you to have your students at-school on Monday and

Wednesday, and at-home Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, on a regular basis. In this case, we would place them on class lists as at-school Monday and Wednesday.

[2020-2021 Half & Half School Year Calendar](#)

What if I want to switch back to full time at-school?

We want to be flexible in working with families, while also keeping in mind the importance of consistency for children. To establish consistency, we will ask people to stay with their chosen option for at least **one month**. *Changes can be made at the first of each month. The office must be notified one week prior to the beginning of the new month if a change is desired.*

High School A Day				High School B Day		
Period	Beginning	End		Period	Beginning	End
1	8:10 AM	9:25 AM		5	8:10 AM	9:25 AM
2	9:30 AM	10:45 AM		6	9:30 AM	10:45 AM
3 & Lunch	10:50 AM	12:30 PM		7 & Lunch	10:50 AM	12:30 PM
4	12:35 PM	1:50 PM		8	12:35 PM	1:50 PM

The Middle School will have an A day B day schedule for electives. Students will have one elective on A and one elective on B.