



# Where the Plus Means So Much More!

Fair Campus | Maybury Campus | Napoleon Campus

Dear A+Arts Academy Community,

The A+ Arts Academy Board of Directors has decided to resume blended learning beginning on **Monday, March 1, 2021**. The complete details are below, but to summarize:

**March 1** - Scholars will transition to a blended learning model, which means they will attend classes at school **2** days per week and at home **3** days per week.

We know that offering our scholars and teachers the opportunity to connect in person will help meet the needs of many who may learn best when receiving face-to-face instruction. Our school buildings have continued to receive thorough disinfecting and exceed all safety protocols to ensure that our scholars and staff remain safe during in-person learning.

We are also pleased to be able to continue to offer the opportunity to all our A+Arts Academy families the option of 100% virtual learning if they desire.

To help with planning for our return to hybrid learning, we are asking ALL families to complete the brief survey by clicking the link below no later than **February 19, 2021**.

[A+AA Scholar Learning Declaration Form](#)

This survey will ask you to decide on whether you would like your scholar to participate in 100% virtual learning or hybrid.

One of the critical factors in our reopening plans is the availability of the COVID-19 vaccine. We are working alongside Columbus Public Health to prepare for the administration of the vaccine to CCS staff members. Several of our staff members have opted to receive the vaccine during this current phase for educators.

I know that there will be many questions from our community about our plans to transition to blended learning. Each campus will be hosting a Virtual Family Engagement the week of February 15th to discuss plans and answer questions. Specific dates and times are forthcoming. In the meantime, this letter contains additional information for your review.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to your scholar's school. Thank you for your continued support as we work together to ensure your scholars not only remain safe, but also continue to receive quality education in the midst of this national pandemic. I look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Sincerely,  
CaLeathiea Cornelius

Regional Director  
Phalen Leadership Academies



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Logistics

***Q. Will my children need to bring their electronic device to and from school?***

- A. YES! Scholars should bring their FULLY-CHARGED device and personal headphones on their in-person days.

***Q. Is there a supply list this year?***

- A. A+Arts Academy has purchased individual supply kits for all HYBRID scholars this year! This will decrease scholars sharing materials. Families are encouraged to purchase a **lanyard** and a **reusable water bottle**. However, individual teachers may request items specifically for their class. Please contact your scholar's teacher for more information.

***Q. How is learning organized on Wednesdays?***

- A. Wednesdays are dedicated for scholars to engage in virtual small group instruction and allows teachers to provide one-on-one support to scholars. Scholars may be assigned independent assignments on a digital platform and/or print. Scholars might also be asked to view a pre-recorded lesson or content related video(s) accompanied by an assignment. Additionally, this time allows staff to engage in training, planning, and collaborate in lesson design with other staff.

***Q. What if my scholar can't attend class?***

- A. Scholars are expected to attend class DAILY. If a scholar does not show for class, they will be marked absent. For scholars without a device, teachers and families should schedule a time that a DAILY check-in phone call can occur to support learning. Class attendance **IS** counted on Wednesdays. A scholar may be marked absent if an assignment is not turned in.

### Special Education Scholars

***Q. When and how will my child's Annual IEP meeting be held (if applicable)?***

- A. All IEP meetings will continue to be held using a virtual platform. Meetings may be held using video-conferencing or tele-conferencing tools (ex. ZOOM, conference call, telephone). Special education teachers will communicate with families to schedule these meetings in a timely manner and, at that time, determine parents/guardians preferred virtual platform(s) for the IEP meeting.



### **Transportation Safety**

#### ***Q. How will buses operate this year?***

**Unfortunately, at this time, we are unable to accommodate any scholar being dropped off at school earlier than 8:00 AM at the Fair and Maybury Campuses.** However, we are working tirelessly to provide morning supervision for scholars with drop-off times earlier than school start times. Transportation may be sending all families NEW bus routes with UPDATED times! Please disregard any previously communicated bus routes that reflected drop-off/pick-up times before/after school hours!

Transportation requests can be made by either calling Columbus City Public School Transportation 614-365-5074 or online at [Columbus City Public School Transportation Request](#). Requests should be made well in advance to allow time for routing.

#### ***Q. If feasible, should families transport their children to school?***

- A. YES! Parents are encouraged to transport their child(ren) to school; however, parents will **NOT** be allowed to walk scholars into the building. Please contact your child(ren)'s school to communicate how your child will get to/from school. Information regarding drop-off/pick-up entrances and exits will vary for each campus and will be outlined in information sent from each school Building Leader. Please allow for slight delays in drop-off/pick-up times during the first few weeks of hybrid.

#### **Campus hours are as follows:**

- **Fair/Maybury** - 8:00 AM - 3:30PM
- **Napoleon** - 7:00 AM - 2:30PM

**NOTE:** It is CRITICAL that car riders are picked up **ON TIME** from school campus. Therefore, Columbus City Police Department and/or Child Protective Services may be called to report any car riders not picked up by **4:00PM** (Fair/Maybury) or **2:45PM** (Napoleon).

**This will be STRICTLY enforced to ensure the safety of scholars. *Habitual late pickups may result in scholars being placed on a 100% remote schedule.***

#### ***Q. Will masks be available if a scholar forgets his/her mask?***

- A. Parents are responsible for providing masks for their child(ren) to wear to school. A limited number will be available for scholars who forget their masks.



### **School and Classroom Safety**

#### ***Q. What are the daily protocols parents should follow before sending their child(ren) to school?***

- A. Parents should review the daily health screening for each scholar **before** sending them to school. Scholars and staff with temperatures over 100.4 will **not** be permitted to enter school buildings. It is critical that **scholars remain home** if they are feeling ill and/or experiencing the following symptoms:

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Fever                                       | New loss of taste or smell |
| Cough                                       | Sore throat                |
| Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing | Congestion or runny nose   |
| Fatigue                                     | Nausea or vomiting         |
| Muscle/body aches                           | Diarrhea                   |
| Headache                                    |                            |

#### ***Q. Are scholars expected to wear masks ALL day?***

- A. YES! Scholars will be expected to wear masks at all times except during breakfast and lunch. Weather permitting, if scholars are taken outside, masks can be removed while practicing social distancing. Families are encouraged to purchase a lanyard that scholars can place their masks on to decrease mask loss.

#### ***Q. How will I be notified if there is a COVID case in the school?***

- A. Families will receive a letter from the school notifying them if there is a COVID case at their school. If a scholar was subject to exposure, they may be asked to quarantine for 10 calendar days before returning.

#### ***Q. What safety precautions will be taken throughout the school day?***

- A. The following are some of the health and safety procedures that will be taken to ensure that our campuses are ready to begin serving scholars.
- Instituting new daily and weekly cleaning protocols such as utilizing the E-Mist Infection Control System machines in every classroom each school day.
  - Ensuring ALL classrooms have hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, soap, and disposable masks (if needed).
  - Staffing a full-time custodian during school hours for all A+Arts Academy campuses.
  - Modified some of the high traffic flow and common areas in our buildings to support social distancing by adding floor stickers and one-way signage throughout buildings.
  - Deep cleaning facilities on Wednesdays, when buildings are vacant of staff and scholars. “Deep-cleanings” include utilizing 10% bleach water solutions and floor to ceiling cleaning.
  - No visitors on campus. Vendor deliveries will be met at the door.
  - Establishing multiple school entrances for daily temperature checks to occur quickly.



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***Q. What is the required procedure for scholars being screened while in the building? How often? Will there be training for teachers?***

A. Daily temperature checks for scholars and staff will occur. Additionally, teachers have received training on how to identify COVID-19 symptoms and what precautions and steps to take.

***Q. Will water fountains be available for use throughout the day?***

A. NO! Scholars are encouraged to bring reusable water bottles labeled with scholar names. A limited supply of disposable water bottles are available on each campus. Water donations are always welcomed. If you are interested in donating, please contact your scholar's campus directly.

***Q. Will scholars be allowed to share food items?***

A. NO! Scholars will only be able to eat food items they bring for themselves.

***Q. What will happen if a scholar displays symptoms while at school?***

A. If a scholar develops COVID like symptoms at school, families will be notified. A determination will be made on whether the scholar should be placed in the COVID isolation room to await their parent/guardian's arrival.

***Q. How will classrooms be arranged to promote safety?***

A. Desks will be placed apart in classrooms to provide adequate distancing between scholars.

***Q. Will students participate in recess?***

A. Scholars will have opportunities to participate in individual recess activities. Teachers will incorporate "Brain-Break" activities that engage scholars throughout the day. However, playgrounds (if applicable) will **not** be available for usage.

### **Child Care Services**

***Q. Will on-site before/after school care be offered this year?***

A. NO! Not at this time. However, considerations may be available later in the school year. Scholars NOT participating in the Reading Advantage program at the Fair or Napoleon campuses are expected to be picked up **on time** from campus and/or board the bus **immediately** after dismissal.

### **Testing**

***Q: How is State testing being handled this year?***

A. Further guidance from the State is forthcoming and will be shared as it's made available. A+AA is dedicated to ensuring that testing environments are made as safe as possible. Testing for scholars of special populations will be offered virtually when necessary.



**Food Services**

***Q. How will breakfast and lunch be served?***

- Breakfast will be served as “Grab-and-go” upon entrance to buildings. Both breakfast and lunches will be served in classrooms.

***Q. Will meals-to-go still be provided?***

- A. YES! Meals-to-go will be available for pickup.

Meals for the week will be distributed during dismissal as follows:

Scholar Group	Take home day	Days of food
Group A	Tuesday	3-day pack
Group B	Friday	3-day pack
Group C	Tuesday	1-day pack
100% remote	Monday <i>(Meals must be picked-up)</i>	5-day

**Communication**

***Q. What’s the best way to receive updates?***

- A. It is CRITICAL that the school has your updated phone number, address, and email address. Weekly electronic communications are provided by building leaders. Additionally, families are encouraged to download the **PLA app** and follow “A+Arts Academies”. We also will use text messages and emails to communicate. Specific information will be shared by each building leader.

***Q. What if I need to change the learning model that I have selected?***

- A. The survey will be open until midnight Friday, February 19, 2021. Due to the incredible amount of planning and preparation involved in welcoming scholars on campus safely, including social distancing, accurate scholar counts are extremely important. If your family does not complete the survey, they will be placed on a hybrid schedule.

***Q. What if I have additional questions?***

- A. We are always willing to assist. Please contact your scholar’s school directly for further support. You are also encouraged to visit the [“For Parents”](#) section of our school’s website.