

Good afternoon SLA Families,

As promised, I want to keep you informed and up-to-speed on any and all changes with regards to school protocol and procedures. On Tuesday, August 25th the Dept. of Health and the Sarasota County School District made changes to their SICK and COVID protocol. I believe these changes are due to the drop in our Positivity Rate, and I hope this will be the last of the changes before the start of school on Monday.

So first let me thank you for your patience, understanding and cooperation. I totally understand the frustration and anxiety caused with so much information and so many changes and additions. I decided to take all the information that has been provided over the last few weeks and condense it with the current updated information to present a more comprehensive version that I hope will be easier to understand and follow.

As of now...these are the most important SLA procedures and protocols you need to know:

SCREENING

Self-Screening

- Students and Staff will self-screen before coming to school/work.
- If any individual presents any ONE of the following symptoms PLEASE stay home.
 - Temperature (any temp over 99.7°)
 - Sore throat
 - New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline);
 - Diarrhea, Vomiting, or Abdominal Pain
 - New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Other – Any symptom that will not allow a student or staff member to return to class/work

Note: Any student who stays home, is sent home, or is denied entry due to the presence of any symptom will have full access to remote learning during their isolation period.

ARRIVAL AND DROP-OFF PROCEDURE [Drop-Off Procedures](#)

Arrival Times [Student Drop-Off Map](#)

- Times will be staggered by grade level to minimize crowding and traffic congestion.
 - 6th Graders: 7:00 – 7:10 am
 - 7th Graders: 7:10 – 7:20 am
 - 8th Graders: 7:20 – 7:30 am

Note: If dropping off students in different grades, use the older grade level for both students.

Late Arrivals

- 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, take your child's temperature and follow the same protocol as listed above

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.

- Walk-up departures cannot be facilitated at this time.

Departure Times (Car Riders)

- Times will be staggered by grade level to minimize crowding and traffic congestion.
 - 6th Graders: 2:00 – 2:10 pm
 - 7th Graders: 2:10 – 2:20 pm
 - 8th Graders: 2:20 – 2:30 pm

Note: If picking up students in different grades, use the older grade level for both students.

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
 - Please pull up to the curb and call the front office
 - A staff member will deliver your child to you as soon as possible

BUS Transportation - Provided by the Sarasota County School District

- The following safety protocols are expected to be followed on school buses:
 - Students will be required to wear a face covering/mask
 - Families should sit together, where feasible
 - School buses will be cleaned daily by drivers
 - Hand sanitizer will be used when entering the bus
 - Hand sanitizer will be used after exiting the bus and prior to entering the school
 - Students must follow all bus rules and procedures; repetitive violations could result in loss of bussing privileges
- All SLA students must register with the District's Transportation Dept.
 - Please use the following link to register your child:
<https://airtable.com/shrclqzuw40mB87uA>
- To find your Bus Stop, please use the following link [find my bus stop](#)
 - This link is not for SLA pocket pickups in North Port

BREAKFAST/LUNCH - Meal Service provided by the Sarasota County School District

- Visit [meal service](#) for more detailed information

FACE COVERINGS/MASKS

- Required for ALL individuals entering the building
 - Cloth, disposable, fitted, and clear window masks are allowed.
 - Bandanas, Buffs and Gaiters are not allowed
 - Make sure your mask:
 - fits snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
 - completely covers the nose and mouth
 - is secured with ties or ear loops
 - Face shields in conjunction with an approved mask are allowed.
 - Exceptions - individual must provide the school with a medical waiver from a health provider
- Guidelines for Non-Compliance (Refusal):
 - 1st offense - Verbal Warning
 - 2nd offense - Parent Conference
 - 3rd offense - Students who continue to refuse to wear a face covering as outlined in our policy will be required to enroll in Remote Learning

Note: SLA is providing each student with two masks, one Blue and one Grey. Unfortunately the Blue masks that were sent are too big for children. Parents, please feel free to keep them

for yourselves and we will distribute new Blue masks to students once we received them.

HEALTH & COVID-19 SCREENING PROTOCOL [NEW Sick or COVID-19 What to Do.](#)

- All children and staff who are exhibiting any of the following symptoms if the symptom is of greater intensity or frequency than what is normally experienced will be denied entry or sent home.

Today your child presented to the school clinic with the following symptom(s):

Section 1: Presenting symptoms:

- ☐ Temperature (100.4) or higher
Note: SLA's morning temp check will remain at any temp over 99.7°
- ☐ Sore throat
- ☐ New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline);
- ☐ Diarrhea, Vomiting, or Abdominal Pain
- ☐ New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever
- ☐ Loss of taste or smell
- ☐ Other: _____

Section 2: Close Contact/ Potential Exposure:

- ☐ Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19
- ☐ Traveled to or lived in an area where the local, Tribal, territorial, or state health department is reporting large numbers of COVID-19 cases
- ☐ Live in areas of high community transmission while the school remains open

- **Please ensure your child meets the criteria below before returning to school.**

Return to School Guidelines

<input type="checkbox"/>	Student answers YES to any question in Section 1 and NO to Section 2	Student will be excused from school until symptom-free for 24 hours, without fever reducing medications.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Student answers YES to any question in Section 1 and YES to any question in Section 2	Student should be referred to their health provider for possible testing. Students with negative test results may return once symptoms have improved in accordance with existing school illness management policies.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Student diagnosed with COVID-19 OR answers YES to any question in Section 1 and answers YES to Section 2, without negative test results	Student can return to school if fever-free for 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing medication AND symptoms have improved AND 10 days since symptoms first appeared.

For Positive COVID-19 tests, please follow up with DOH Sarasota at 941-861-2873 to obtain a return to school letter for your child.

If your child has emergency warning signs: trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to arouse, or bluish lips or face seek emergency care immediately.

Contact our School Nurse at lisa.cafarelli@sarasotacountyschools.net or call 941-485-5551 for any questions or concerns.

Our school will continue to implement all safety and health prevention and precaution protocol as stated in our [reopening plan](#). We will also continue to monitor and assess the current health environment and make decisions accordingly. The goal is to safely scale back our precautionary measures and gradually return to pre-pandemic operations.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any question and concerns. My staff and I will continue to provide your child with a safe, healthy, and high-level academic environment that promotes our core values and supports our students, families, and community.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Cooley
Principal