

Dear Lee-Scott Academy Families:

For many of our school's families, we respect that life has taken many twists and turns since early March. Our teachers and school administrators have all done an incredible job maintaining your children - Lee-Scott Academy's students - as the priority and continue to do so during the summer months. We are passionate about returning to school as we knew it before Spring Break when we return in August. While we can't make the promise that will happen, we want you to know that is certainly the plan we are pursuing at this time.

I am writing to provide an update on our plans for the 2020-2021 school year and share some context for how we are assimilating information and making decisions. Lee-Scott Academy has established a school re-opening task force composed of board members, faculty, administrative staff, and parents that are working in consultation with health officials to develop a safe, comprehensive plan for our return to campus. The task force worked in committees and together with the school administration has created a [Lee-Scott Academy School Re-Opening Document](#) that we will use as our guide these next several weeks. I want to thank these members of our school community for their wisdom, insight, and guidance in their areas as we seek to offer the best educational options for our families given our present circumstances. The re-opening plan will now become a working document with our faculty, staff, and administrators as we implement the plan internally and create a safe environment for our students and faculty.

We are focusing on three major areas in our planning: the health and safety of our community, the educational experience of our students, and the financial health of the school. As part of this endeavor, we are considering ways to enhance the experience of our parents and students. Thank you to those who completed the Technology Survey sent to our families. As we continue to navigate these next few weeks, we will use your feedback with our faculty in our planning for learning and teaching.

Our Assumptions

We are continually monitoring all facets of this dynamic situation and we recognize that this requires adaptive planning that will evolve as the science and circumstances do. Despite the uncertainty, we are developing plans based on the following assumptions informed by the most current guidance from public health officials:

- School campus will reopen in the 2020–2021 academic year with the probability that Lee County will experience continued outbreaks of COVID-19 that will force us to revert to an alternate plan. We must prepare for the potential closures triggered by additional waves of infections.
- Every aspect of our school, including our physical campus, our academic calendar, daily schedules, programming, and social habits, will require modifications based on guidance from national, state, and local health officials, which could include physical distancing, wellness checks, masks,

frequent disinfecting of classrooms, as well as possible intermittent transitions to distance learning.

- We will not be returning to a pre-COVID “normal” for some time and social distancing is here for the foreseeable future. The risk of a surge in cases that would require a return to safer-at-home or to a statewide shelter-at-home order is very real.

Our Commitments

Please know that we recognize the uncertainty you may be facing as you make plans for next year and we are doing our best to address the questions and concerns we are all facing as a school. I’ve said this elsewhere, but I want to reiterate our commitments to you:

- We are committed to preserving each family as part of our school community through these very challenging times.
- We are committed to providing a rich Lee-Scott educational experience for our students.
- We will continue to communicate plans and decisions as they develop.

With the information outlined above, there are likely still thoughts about “What if?” We know, from observing conversations among health professionals and government leaders, that there may be a chance in the fall that schools could be affected by COVID-19. This could mean any window of time where school could be interrupted due to illness. While planning on a traditional start, we will also be prepared for multiple scenarios so that we can pivot as needed to be sure high-caliber education continues for your students.

Our goal is to continue to communicate throughout July via email and social media with our current and prospective families as we partner with state leaders, the Alabama Department of Public Health, SAIS, AISA, and our local medical leaders to make the best decisions for Lee-Scott Academy. Information will also continue to be posted to the LSA website on the [Lee-Scott Academy Health page](#).

Please make sure your email address is updated in PowerSchool so that you receive these important email updates. If you are not receiving emails, please email info@lee-scott.org to make sure your address is current. In closing, I want to reiterate how amazing you are. Every one of us is doing the impossible right now, personally and professionally, and you’ve granted us grace at every turn. For that, I thank you.

With gratitude,

Dr. Stan Cox, Head of School

- [2020-2021 Academic Calendar](#)
- [2020-2021 School Re-Opening Plan](#)