

September 3, 2020

Good afternoon,

Everyone at LaGrange Middle School is so excited to start the 2020 school year, after such a strange end to last year. It is unfortunate that we will be starting in a full remote learning model for the month of September, but for those of you that chose the hybrid learning model, we are planning to have many of the students back in school on a part time basis starting in early October. Also, for those of you that may not be aware, I decided to delay my retirement until later this Fall. As you know, this will be a much different start to a school year that any of us have had to endure before, but LMS has been preparing for this and we are ready to accept the challenge.

The purpose of this correspondence is to provide you with as much information as possible in preparation for the start of remote learning on Thursday, September 10th. There are a few details that have not been finalized as of yet, but I will reach out to you when they are completed. I have waited as long as possible to communicate with all of you to provide you with the most updated information that we have. I am sure that you will have questions after reading this, but please do not worry, we are here to assist you and ensure the opening of school as seamless as possible.

SCHOOL TOOL

- All parents will be able to view your child's schedule on Friday, September 4th on Parent Portal.
- Remote learning begins on Thursday, September 10th. On Wednesday, September 9th please have your child log into their Google Classroom and accept invitations into all of their classes. If they are having trouble logging in, please reach out to your classroom teacher and if needed, your Guidance Counselor (contact information below) to assist you.
- The students will follow the remote learning schedule listed below. The daily schedule will run from 9:00am -2:25pm.
- We follow an A/C and B/D schedule, which means that a few classes meet every other day, such as Physical Education.

Example:

9/10	9/11	9/14	9/15	9/16
A day	B day	C day	D day	A day

- During remote learning, if your child is scheduled for a study hall, they will not have to join that class.
- When reading your child's schedule please note that classes are either full year, first semester, or second semester. The following codes are located in the semester column on the schedule:

Semester	Description
Q1,Q2,Q3,Q4	Full year class
Q1, Q2	First semester class (September-January)
Q3, Q4	Second semester class (February-June)

- We will not be able to honor team, teacher, and lunch period change requests at this time. We have gone to great lengths to balance sections by cohorts as best we can and the movement of students from section to section could disrupt our ability to maintain social distancing.

FULL VIRTUAL (REMOTE) SCHEDULE

- The full virtual remote schedule will begin for all students on Thursday, September 10 with live learning occurring through Google Classroom.
- During Wednesdays, students will be working independently on work provided by their teachers.

Full Virtual Remote				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Live Instruction	Live Instruction	Independent	Live Instruction	Live Instruction

Daily Time Schedule	
Period	Time
1	9:00 - 9:25
2	9:30 - 9:55
3	10:00 - 10:25
BREAK	10:25-11:00
4	11:00-11:25
5	11:30 - 11:55
6	12:00 - 12:25
BREAK	12:25 - 1:00
7	1:00 - 1:25
8	1:30 - 1:55
9	2:00 - 2:25

ATTENDANCE

- During live instruction in September, students must be present at the start of each period for attendance purposes.
- On Wednesdays, students will report their attendance on their respective Google Classroom pages.
- If your child is unable to participate, you must contact the LMS Attendance Secretary at 845-486-4880 ext 22119.

ONLINE LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

- Students should be on time.
- Students should be dressed appropriately.
- Students should be seated at an appropriate learning space. A good example is a desk or table. We discourage students learning in their bed or distractible areas in the home.
- Appropriate behavior is expected at all times.

ONLINE LEARNING TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Please take a look at the link provided for some ways to help your child learn from home

<https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/learning-at-home/homework-study-skills/online-learning-how-to-prepare-child>

GUIDANCE COUNSELOR INFORMATION

- The following is information for contacting your child's guidance counselor if necessary:

Grade 6	A-K	Mr. Spadaro (vspadaro@acsdny.org)
	L-Z	Mrs. Mesuch (smesuch@acsdny.org)
Grade 7	A-Ka	Mrs. Baldelli (pbaldelli@acsdny.org)
	Ke-Z	Ms. Paolo (apaolo@acsdny.org)
Grade 8	A-E	Mr. Spadaro
	F-Li	Mrs. Mesuch
	Lo-R	Ms. Paolo
	S-Z	Mrs. Baldelli

COHORT INFORMATION FOR HYBRID LEARNING

- The schedule for hybrid learning will begin during the week of October 5th. More details will follow when the schedule is finalized.
- You are able to print out your child's schedule from Parent Portal once it is available. Your child's cohort name will be listed first under the course. Cohorts will vary at the elementary, middle and high school levels.

The LMS Cohorts are as follows:

Cohort Blue – Last names A-K Cohort Maroon – Last names L-Z Cohort Green— Full Remote

From September 10- October 5 all cohorts will be taught remotely

- At the middle school level, when we transition to the hybrid model, the Blue and Maroon Cohorts will report to school and the Green cohort will remain on remote instruction only. I will distribute this schedule in the near future when it becomes finalized.

SUPPLY LISTS

- Supply lists are on hold for now. More information will follow in a few weeks.

LOCKERS

- We will not be issuing lockers for the foreseeable future. Teachers are aware of this and students should keep this in mind as the hybrid model approaches. We will be sure to communicate more on this with you as October approaches.

OPEN HOUSE

- Information regarding Open House will be forthcoming regarding the date and format.

6TH GRADE ORIENTATIONS

- We are contemplating various options for our new 6th grade class to have the opportunity to visit the building and orient themselves sometime in September.

I have attempted to provide as much information as possible as we prepare to start remote instruction next Thursday. This September promises to be unlike any other September in the past, but please be assured that we are working hard to provide quality instruction in a safe learning environment. We are looking forward to working with your child, and as always, thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Eric Schetter

LMS Principal