



REACH NEW HEIGHTS!

ELEVATION PREPARATORY ACADEMY RE-OPENING PLAN

Summary Guide for
Students, Parents, and Their Families

1077 S Euclid. Ave. Sarasota, FL 34237 • Phone: 941-371-0462 • Fax: 941-371-1750

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SUMMARY

Over the past four months, we have learned in a deeper way, the value and importance of education. As we prepare to reopen our schools, let us remain focused on our students, the reason we teach, and the reason why we will gather, prudently and safely in the Fall.

The purpose of this document is to guide the EPA family as we move into the academic year of 2020-2021. We intend to safely reopen all of our school buildings to all families in September. Reopening in these challenging times requires careful planning. EPA has worked diligently with Administration, teachers and staff as well as health officials at the federal, state and local level to develop a comprehensive reopening plan for the 2020-21 academic year.

The Department of Education will update the *EPA Reopening Plan* using data and recommendations from the federal, state and local public health organizations. EPA Administration will disseminate updates through the appropriate communication channels without delay.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2020

The following pages outline how EPA will maximize the health and safety of persons on campus while mitigating risk and community spread.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Social distancing is an effective way to prevent potential infection. Employees, students, parents, and visitors should keep close or physical contact with others to a minimum. All persons on school property are to wear a mask and keep at least three feet apart. In the event that masks are not being worn, all persons must remain at least six feet apart.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

PPE complements social distancing by further mitigating outbreaks and infections. PPE may include the following:

Face Covering: Face coverings (mask or gaiter) are required to be worn by all persons (students, employees, visitors, and volunteers, etc.) on school property over the age of 2 years old. A face covering should safely cover the wearer's mouth and nose at all times.*

** There may be instances where a student is allowed to safely unmask under the direct supervision of school faculty, (for example: physical education with social distancing of greater than 6 feet). Other considerations include but are not limited to sports, performing arts, and consuming food/beverages. Individuals who have a specific medical condition may consult the school principal for further guidance.*

1. Families should be prepared to purchase masks or gaiters for their child or children.
 2. Families should purchase at least two sets and should be washed after every school day.
- It is recommended that students with fabric face coverings have at least five sets to permit daily rotation and cleaning. Students are strongly encouraged to have at least two spare face coverings in his or her backpack.
 - If using disposable masks parents should send students with extra disposable masks in case they are damaged during the day.
3. Face coverings may not contain messages or images that would distract from the EPA educational environment.
 4. Masks may be removed during special circumstances. These include:
 - When eating or drinking.
 - When engaged in outdoor activities/instruction, sports specific training, team practice.
 - When removed, individuals should wash or sanitize their hands before touching their masks.
 - All students and employees must receive training on proper wearing and cleaning of face coverings.

VISITOR RESTRICTIONS

All guests on our campus will check-in at the main office. Visitors will undergo a wellness check identical to those administered to students and will be escorted with a face mask around the campus.

MEDICAL CARE FOR STUDENTS

Schools may provide for the ongoing medical needs of students. This includes the administration of approved medications and basic first aid. Staff will wear proper PPE when providing medical care that involves physical contact with students.

ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

To mitigate congestion and limit cross contamination, student will enter and exit through designated doorway(s). **All students and employees must wear face coverings upon arrival.**

Students will undergo daily wellness checks prior to entry into facility. Wellness checks consist of four individual "checks":

1. **Temperature Checks:** Every student will have his or her temperature taken by a school employee. Any student with a temperature more than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will be sent home.
2. **Hand Washing or Sanitizer Check:** Students will either wash their hands or receive hand sanitizer from a stationary dispenser or an adult posted at the entryway. At least one staff member will monitor the hand washing/hand sanitizing station.
3. **Face Covering Check:** A check of each student to ensure that face coverings are present and properly worn.
4. **Symptoms Check:** Students should be asked the following questions every day: "Do you feel sick in any way?" and "Do you have a cough or fever?" Any student who answers, "yes," to either question will be sent home.

HEALTH PROTOCOL FOR STUDENTS

If a student becomes ill at school or another person exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, he or she will be asked to leave school.

If a student has COVID-19 symptoms, he or she may return to campus if he or she meets **one** of the following criteria:

1. A negative COVID-19 test result within or after the 14 day quarantine.
2. A doctor's note allowing the student to return to school
3. If a student has tested positive, the student cannot return until the student has tested negative for COVID-19 within or after the 14 days of quarantine.

Any case of a student testing positive for COVID-19 must be reported to EPA Administration.

Parents and guardians should not enter the building to escort students to or from classrooms at arrival and dismissal.

COMMUNITY SPREAD

An entire school may be quarantined in cases of widespread infections. EPA Administration will work with the Florida Department of Education and Health Department in determining a school closure. Students will be allowed to complete and submit academic work while quarantined.

STUDENT TRAVEL

Students must be tested and remain home for 14 days or until a negative test result is received, after traveling to another country, or to states experiencing significant COVID-19 outbreaks (as determined by the CDC). Students must inform EPA Administration immediately if they display COVID-19 symptoms during the 14 day quarantine period.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students will be tested upon arrival as part of their annual school physical and remain in quarantine for 14 days, **OR** until a negative test result is received. **ALL STUDENTS WILL BE TESTED WITHIN 48 HOURS OF ARRIVAL.** Students will be permitted to continue their studies virtually while in quarantine. Students must inform EPA Administration immediately if they display COVID-19 symptoms.

COVID-19 EXPOSURE OF FAMILY MEMBERS

In cases where students, employees, or volunteers are exposed to individuals (such as an immediate family member) who are COVID-19–positive in their home, they should immediately follow this protocol:

- The individual should be asked to remain at home for at least 14 days from last exposure to their family member.
- Once the family member has tested negative and the individual has no symptoms, the individual can return to school.

FAMILIES THAT HAVE MULTIPLE SIBLINGS AT EPA- If a child or parent in the family is diagnosed with COVID-19, the entire family should remain at home until the conditions above have been met. Students will be allowed to complete and submit academic work while at home.

INTERNAL TRAFFIC FLOW

Traffic flow will be adjusted and monitored to help keep student socially distant from one another. School staff may direct students with specific routes to and from their classrooms. School staff will also adjust how students travel through high-traffic areas such as the gym, bathrooms, and cafeterias.

GENERAL FACILITY CLEANING, HYGIENE, & SHARED SCHOOL SUPPLIES

School will resume on September 28 completely cleaned and disinfected, and will continue to adhere to necessary safety precautions.

All rooms will have access to hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol. Spray bottles of cleaning disinfectant will be readily available in each classroom and shared space for use throughout the day. Common surfaces in shared spaces (e.g. office, bathrooms, stair handrails, etc.) should be cleaned multiple times per day.

Drinking fountains will be used only to fill reusable water bottles or disposable cups provided by the school. Drinking fountains will be cleaned regularly.

CAFETERIA AND MEAL PERIODS

Cafeteria and food preparation rooms will be regularly sanitized and disinfected. Cafeteria employees and volunteers should follow the prescribed protocol for PPE while preparing and distributing food. Students and staff should avoid touching surfaces touched by others to the extent feasible. Tables and other common items will be disinfected between each meal. Sharing food between students and/or staff is not allowed.

School staff will establish the maximum capacity for the cafeteria that allows for social distancing to the extent possible. Consideration should be made to staggering lunch periods if it becomes necessary to limit the number of people in the cafeteria at any one time. Students should refrain from unnecessary contact with others such as hugs, handshakes, fist pounds, and high fives.