



FOR A SAFER US

REOPENING ROADMAP
YMCA TIGER ACADEMY 2020 - 2021

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Dear Parents,

We continue to move forward with re-opening Tiger Academy for the 2020-2021 school year. As educators are navigating truly extraordinary times, the Tiger administrative team continues to work to find a balance between the severity of the pandemic and the need for students and families to go back to school and work. We were extremely proud of the collective response to distance learning and the flexibility and ingenuity that the teachers and students at Tiger showed at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. The administrative team has worked hard to observe, listen and adjust as we become more comfortable in the online world.

In preparation for the inevitable changes that will take place during the 2020-2021 school year, we feel it is important to provide transparent communication about how decisions are being made at Tiger Academy. All decisions that are made will center on the mission and vision which Tiger was founded:

Mission: To provide the children of the Northside a structured and nurturing learning environment that is focused on rigorous academic standards, character development, self-discipline, personal and social responsibility and family involvement.

Vision: "Tigers Today, Leaders Tomorrow"

As school administrators we have identified 5 guiding principles which will serve as our axioms for decision making as we move forward into the next school year.

- The wellness, safety and education of the Tiger students are our top priority.
- We will listen to the Tiger faculty and staff and take into account their input as decisions are made.
- We will listen to the Tiger families and larger community and provide them with transparent communication.
- We will preserve our dedication to high academic standards and the development of leaders-without exception.
- We will celebrate our successes and use our setbacks as learning experiences which better prepare us to move forward in the right direction.

It is inevitable that there will be hard decisions to be made from the fallout of COVID-19. Each of these choices will be made with care; using our mission, vision and guiding principles as benchmarks to make the right decisions for the Tiger Community.

In the following document, we have developed specific guidelines and processes to ensure a high standard of academic excellence while also keeping the safety of the Tiger students and staff at the forefront of our decision making. The Tiger Academy Re-opening plan allows for all students who feel comfortable, to be on campus each day. This plan was developed using guidance and recommendations from the CDC, Florida Department of Education, Duval County Public Schools, First Coast YMCA guidelines, Tiger parent surveys, and a task force of Tiger faculty and staff.

Please take some time to review the policies and procedures, keeping in mind that this is an ever-changing environment and our plan will continuously be reviewed and updated when necessary.

The administration at Tiger Academy respects the right of each family to make their own decision when it comes to physically returning to campus. The school is preparing to accommodate the decision to have students work from home. A virtual and hybrid learning option is outlined in this document.

The beginning of the school year is an exciting time for Tiger Scholars and all the members of the Tiger community. We are working towards a re-opening that is as exciting as in years past.

Please feel free to reach out to Tiger administrators with your questions and watch for additional updates and communication in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

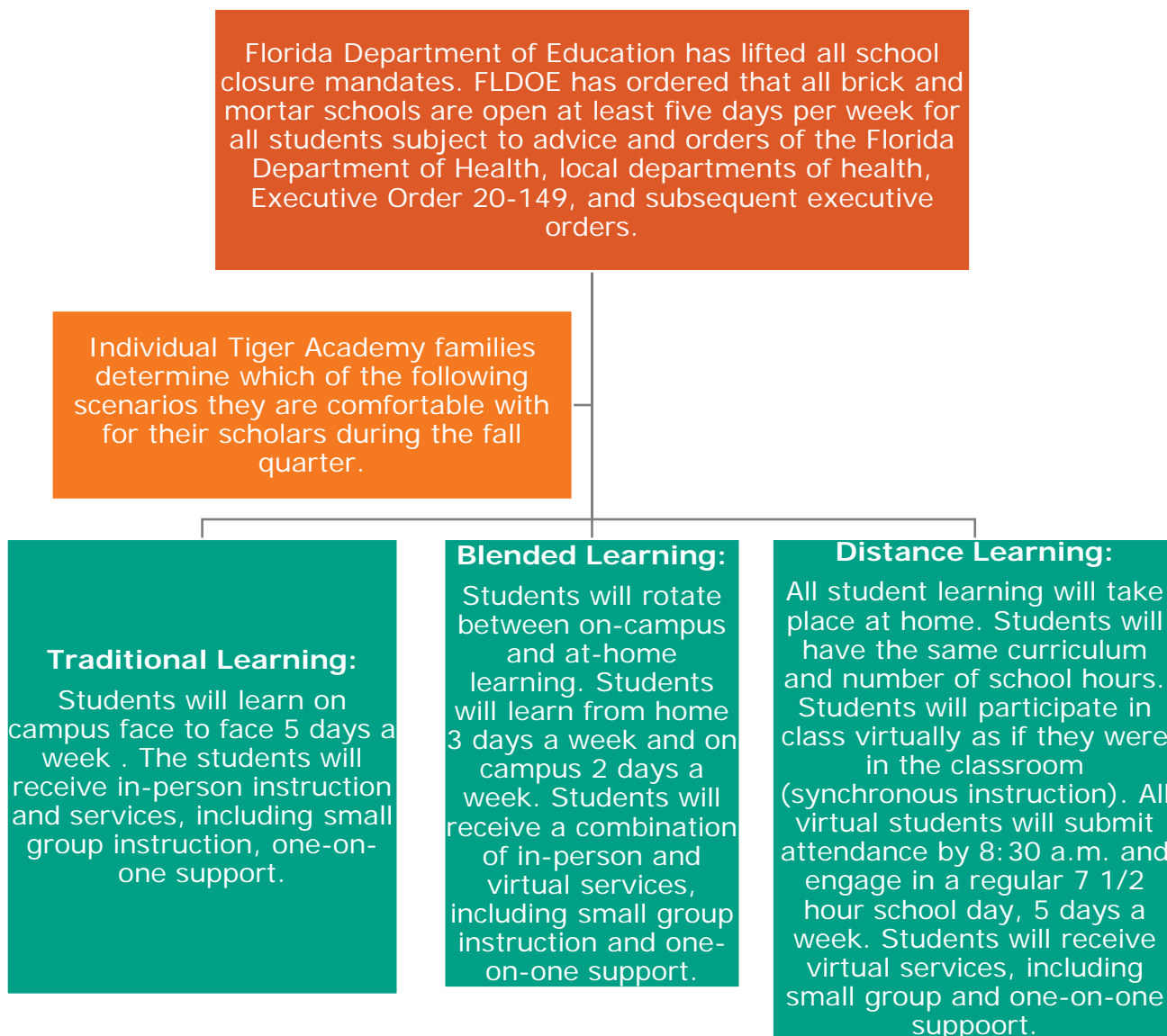


Lauren Gibbs
Tiger Academy Executive Director



Charles McWhite
Tiger Academy Principal

Tiger Academy Re-entry Process



The Tiger Academy campus is scheduled to open on **August 10th** unless authorities mandate for schools to remain closed. We plan to open in a **blended learning model**, from **August 10th- August 28th**. Tiger will be open for traditional learning (5 days a week on campus) as well as blended learning (2 days a week on campus/3 days a week at home) on **August 31st**. We recognize that some families may not be ready for their children to return to campus. These families will be given the option to learn from home **on a quarterly basis**, beginning August 10th.

Prevention: Health and Safety

Cleaning and Disinfection

Tiger Academy is committed to maintaining a clean and safe environment for our students and faculty. We will continue to implement high standards of cleanliness and disinfection for our campus. We will take the following preventative measures:

- Replace all carpets in the school prior to re-opening.
- Conduct a deep cleaning of all school space prior to re-opening.
- Hire a day porter who will join the custodial staff but whose sole responsibility is to disinfect the school throughout the school day.
- Clean and disinfect all indoor spaces nightly.
- Utilize one of the three school foggers to disinfect the classrooms and cafeteria multiple times throughout the day.
- Install self-cleaning door handles on all doors in the school which are high touch areas.
- Replace all water fountains with bottle filling stations rather than traditional spouts.
- Replace all paper towel dispensers with censored paper towel dispensers.
- Avoid sharing of electronic devices and materials. All students will have their own materials which they will store in a bin in the classroom. When the use of shared objects is unavoidable, objects will be cleaned after each use.
- Temporarily suspend the use of playground equipment. Students will be able to go outside to play with sports equipment on the field but not the playground equipment at this time. Only school sports equipment will be used.
- Increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible.

CDC Guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html>

Hand Washing

Keeping hands clean is especially important to help prevent the spread of viruses. Hand washing stations will be available throughout the school for teachers and students to either use hand soap or hand sanitizer. Signage will be posted throughout the school reminding teachers and students to frequently wash their hands. The signage will also include the best practices for hand washing.

CDC Guidance: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html

Distancing

Tiger scholars and faculty will practice social distancing while inside the school building.

- Traffic flow protocols and floor markers have been put in place throughout the campus to maintain physical distancing.
- Desks will be positioned 3-6 feet apart and excess furniture has been removed from classrooms to allow for greater physical distancing.

- When necessary, classes will be relocated to larger spaces or outdoor spaces on campus to allow for greater physical distancing.
- Plexiglas desk dividers will be utilized in all classrooms that have individual student desks.
- Students will not move to other classrooms throughout the day. They will remain in one classroom all day. Individual teachers may move between the classes but students will not.
- The school clinic has been renovated in order to create isolation space for students who become ill at school.

CDC Guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html>

Face Coverings

Face coverings help protect everyone. Upon the reentry of school, wearing face coverings will be mandatory for all students, faculty and visitors on the school campus. Students may bring their own face covering including: cloth face mask, face and neck gaiter, or face shields. At the start of the year, the school will provide each student with a face mask. All students Pre-K- 2nd grade will also receive a face shield. The school will have extra face coverings available for purchase should your student lose theirs.

CDC Guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

Arrival, Dismissal and Visitors

Arrival

In order to protect all students and school personnel, students will be greeted each morning outside of the school by a Tiger staff member. A brief health screening and temperature check will be conducted prior to the student exiting their car and entering the building. Students and parents should remain in the car until they have been cleared for safe entry.

Pre-K- 2nd grade students will arrive in the front of the building as in previous years. 3rd-5th grade students will arrive at the back of the building in the 3-5 car loop. This procedure will continue to be re-evaluated as risk levels change.

Students will go straight to their classrooms upon arrival. At this time we are unable to provide morning care during the months of August and September. This will change as the year progresses.

Parents should monitor symptoms if a child is not feeling well and should avoid sending them to school. Symptoms to watch for include but are not limited to:

- Fever of 99.6 or higher
- New onset of cough or shortness of breath
- Other symptoms associated with COVID, such as chills, muscle pain, sore throat, headache, new rash, loss of smell or taste ,GI symptoms such as diarrhea, vomiting, or nausea

There will be signs posted in and outside of the school reminding students, faculty and families of the symptoms for COVID.

Dismissal

Classes will be dismissed individually to go outside for dismissal. There will not be multiple classes in the hallway at the same time. Each grade level will have a designated location outside for dismissal. Students within the grade will be socially distanced in their designated location. Grades Pre-K- 2nd will dismiss from the front car circle and grades 3rd-5th will dismiss from the back car circle. Parents should remain in their cars and the students will be brought to you. At this time we are waiting for information on Team Up and aftercare. We will provide that information as soon as it is available.

Visitors

While Tiger Academy traditionally welcomes and encourages parents, community members as well as other visitors to campus, access and protocols for visiting the campus may differ based on the level of community transmission.

- Upon arrival, visitors (including parents) should call the office and wait in their vehicle until school personnel can attend to their need.
- Potential Tiger students who want to visit the school should contact Ms. Didier to arrange a school visit (the tour may be done virtually depending on transmission levels).
- Visitors will engage in a screening protocol that includes a health questionnaire and temperature check.
- All visitors are required to wear face coverings.
- Visitors will be required to follow local and state public health recommendations in place at the time.

Movement Across Campus/Lunch/ Recess/Resource/Large Events

Movement Across Campus

- Movement across campus may be adjusted depending on the level of community transmission which requires limited mixing between groups.
- Floor spots will be placed throughout the school 3-6 feet apart to encourage students to remain at a distance from each other in the hallways.
- Classes will be dismissed separately to promote distancing and minimizing the congregation of groups in the halls.
- Wall signage will guide students throughout the building and promote physical distancing.

Lunch

We have spent considerable time determining the number of students who can eat lunch in the cafeteria at the same time while keeping 6 feet apart. We are able to have each grade level use the cafeteria for a half hour. 8 students (4 from each class) will be able to eat outside and there will be 2 students per cafeteria table inside. Each class will go through the

lunch line one at a time, 6 feet apart, if they are purchasing their lunch. If there is inclement weather the 8 students who would have eaten outside will eat on the stage at desks 6 feet apart.

Students will wash their hands before and after lunch. Frequently touched/shared surfaces will be disinfected and the cafeteria will be cleaned between each grade level. Pre-K students will not eat lunch in the cafeteria.

Recess

The Tiger Academy faculty understands the importance of allowing students to engage in daily recess. We plan to continue to offer outdoor recess whenever possible. Upon the re-opening of school, the playground equipment will not be available for the students. However, they are able to play on the field and use sports equipment provided by the school. Students are asked to not bring sports equipment from home. The use of the playground equipment will continue to be reevaluated throughout the fall semester.

Resources

Resource classes such as Art, PE, Music and Library are an important part of a scholar's whole development. While the nature of the delivery may be different, the content will continue to be a vital part of the Tiger curriculum. Art and music will continue to be held in the classroom with the teachers coming to the room. Supplies will not be shared, face coverings will continue to be worn and physical distancing will continue to be observed. For music, group singing will take place outside only. PE will take place outside and depending on the level of community transmission, the PE curriculum will be accomplished by keeping physical distance. PE equipment will be cleaned and sanitized after each use and face covering will continue to be used. Small groups of students may use the library during designated times. The library teacher may visit classrooms to bring a curated selection of books for the students to check out. All tables and bookshelves will be sanitized regularly.

Large Events

Programs and events will be modified or rescheduled to limit crowd sizes and comply with physical distancing guidelines.

Before and After Care/Pre-Kindergarten

Morning Care

At this time we are unable to provide morning care on the Tiger campus during the months of August and September. We anticipate that this will change as the year progresses and the levels of community transmission change. In order to provide the best cleaning and sanitation possible, the school building needs to be empty in the mornings for the custodial staff to clean.

Team Up and After School Care

At this time we are waiting for information from the Kids Hope Alliance on the status of Team Up. Team up will move forward either face to face or virtually. We are also looking into partnering with the Johnson YMCA to provide other after school care options for our Tiger scholars. We will provide more information as soon as it is available.

Pre-Kindergarten Classes

Tiger Academy is proud of the excellent pre-kindergarten program we have built over the past eleven years. We believe that our teachers provide our scholars with the very best education and community possible. In the past, we have been fortunate to be able to offer voluntary full-day care for our families. This summer has been full of uncertainty and the parents of entering pre-kindergarteners, have the additional stress associated with a child entering an unfamiliar environment. At Tiger Academy, we have reviewed multiple scenarios in order to provide your child with the best experience possible.

We have determined the following:

- Pre-Kindergarten classes will begin at Tiger Academy on **Tuesday, September 8th**.
- Parents will have the option of either a 3-hour day or a full-day.
- Parents choosing a 3-hour option may choose for their scholar to attend school from 8am-11am or from 12pm-3pm.

In the next few weeks you will be invited to a zoom question and answer meeting with principal McWhite. You will also be contacted by your child's teacher. Please consider your options carefully and be prepared to make a decision by early August. **There will be no virtual option for pre-k students.** Structuring the day as two half days will allow us to decrease class size. This will also give us an hour between the morning and afternoon groups of students when we can clean the classrooms. Our hope will be to go back to our traditional pre-k model in the spring of 2021.

Learning Environment Table Grades Pre-K-2nd

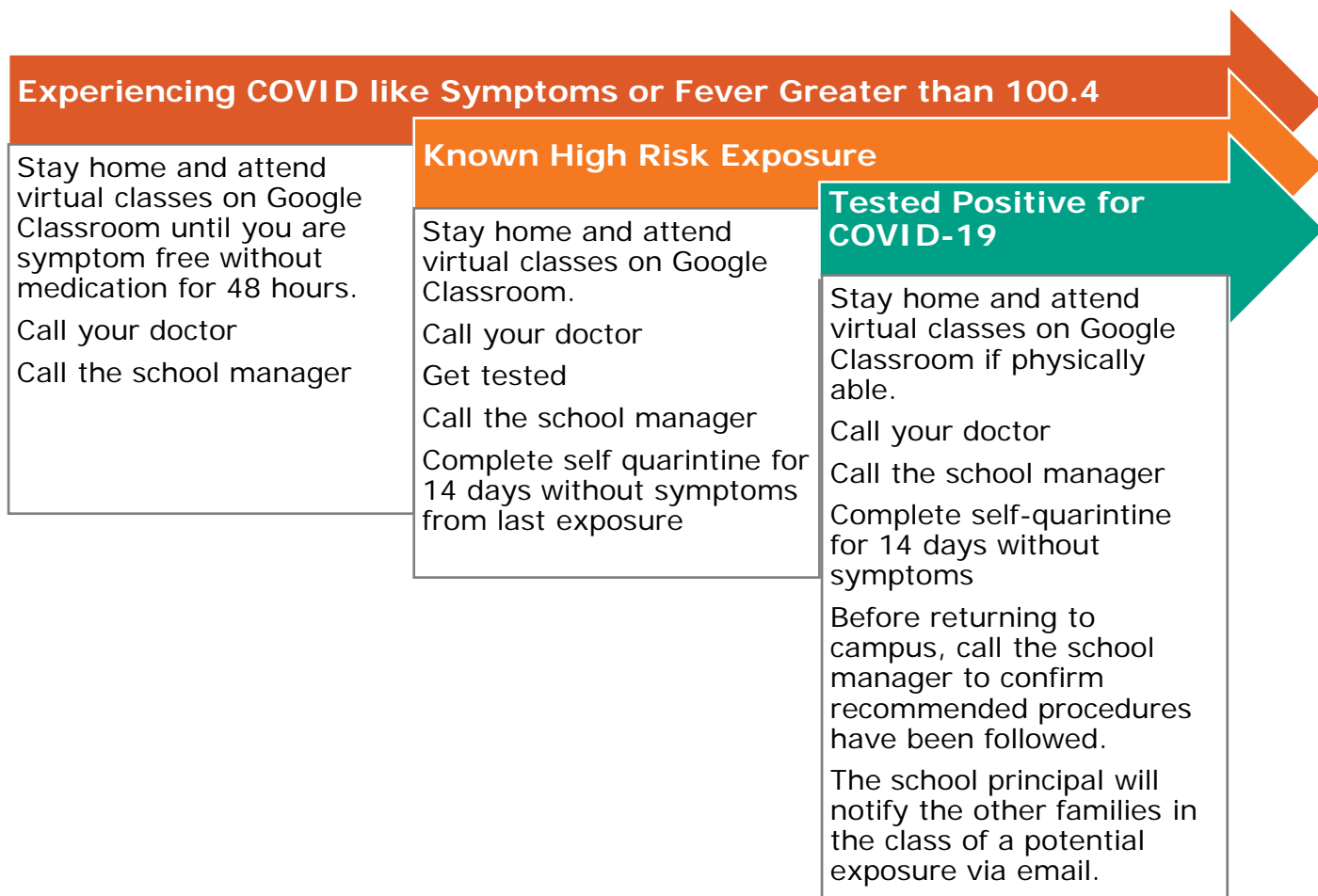
The following tables were created by the primary and intermediate teams. These are designed to give families an idea of what instruction may look like during different levels of risk due to COVID-19.

Level of Risk (based on community transmission)	Instructional Model (face-to-face or online learning)	Practice (teaching and learning environment)	Health and Safety Response
Minimal Risk Low to no transmission of cases in the area	Traditional instruction on campus for all healthy students.	Face to face classes, activities and events. No shared materials- students have individual toolkits. Use of Google Classroom as part of the primary instructional method.	Sanitizing individual classroom and materials daily, frequent hand washing. School wide cleaning daily.
Moderate Risk Slight to moderate increase in transmission of cases in our area	In-school instruction. Reduce the number of student interactions as much as possible within the classroom.	Limit carpet time. Groups of students stay together with the same teacher. Scholars wearing masks/face shields, smaller groups at back table, limit number of computers in use, minimizing classroom library (teacher chooses books)	Increase school wide cleaning frequency. Daily temperature checks before scholars and teachers enter the building. Frequent hand washing. Fog the classrooms multiple times throughout the day. Minimal movement throughout the school building.
Elevated Risk Transmission is trending upward	Reduce class sizes with A/B Day to alter the number of students in the room.	Students are broken up into two groups and are either receiving face to face instruction or working virtually to complete work assigned by the teacher.	Increase school wide cleaning frequency. Frequent hand washing. Daily temperature checks before scholars and teachers enter the building. Fog the classrooms multiple times throughout the day.
Significant Risk Widespread transmission, conditions require closures	Online Google Classroom instruction for all Tiger students	All online following the same curriculum and a 7 ½ hour school day.	Building is closed. Deep cleaning and sanitization of all campus buildings.

Learning Environment Table Grades 3rd- 5th

Level of Risk (based on community transmission)	Instructional Model (face-to-face or online learning)	Practice (teaching and learning environment)	Health and Safety Response
Minimal Risk Low to no transmission of cases in the area	Traditional instruction on campus for all healthy students	Minimal movement in classroom and throughout the school.	Health/Safety Conscious person on drop off. Built in time for custodial team to clean the room with the day - Cleaning Power Hour
Moderate Risk Slight to moderate increase in transmission of cases in our area	Minimized rotations - Increase 1:1 technology infused lessons and assignments	No movement outside of desk area	Health/Safety Conscious person on drop off. Built in time for custodial team to clean the room with the day - Cleaning Power Hour
Elevated Risk Transmission is trending upward	M/W Students - T/TH Students w/ F Virtual Follow ups and Contact.	No movement outside of desk area	Health/Safety Conscious person on drop off. Built in time for custodial team to clean the room with the day - Cleaning Power Hour
Significant Risk Widespread transmission, conditions require closures	Online Google Classroom instruction for all Tiger students	All online following the same curriculum and a 7 ½ hour school day.	Building is closed. Deep cleaning and sanitization of all campus buildings.

COVID-19 Process for Illness



Student Illnesses

Students should not be sent to school if they are experiencing any of the symptoms associated with COVID-19. Should a student become ill during the school day with COVID-like symptoms, a staff member will conduct a temperature check. Front office staff will be notified and an adult will take the student from the classroom to the clinic to rest and isolate, while awaiting pick-up.

Parents will be notified immediately should a child become ill. Parents should be prepared to pick up sick children and their siblings within 30 minutes or have a plan in place for them to be picked up within 30 minutes if unavailable.

Tiger Academy will notify local health officials, school personnel, and families immediately of a possible case of COVID-19, while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws. Please reference the table above for specific procedures.

Faculty and Staff Illness

All faculty and staff will follow the same health and safety screening protocols prescribed by the level of community transmission, including daily symptom and temperature checks.

If a faculty or staff member becomes ill with COVID-like symptoms, they will leave campus immediately and another staff member or substitute teacher will resume instruction. Local health officials will be notified as required by law. Please reference the table above for procedures.

Staff members who are in a high risk category due to age or underlying illness will be encouraged to work virtually.

Florida Department of Education Assurances

The Florida Department of Education is requiring charter schools to submit an Innovative Reopening Plan to their partner school district. This document will assist schools in aligning their plan with required assurances, based on the assurances outlined in DOE ORDER NO. 2020-EO-06. Below are the assurances that charter schools must agree to meet.

Assurance 1: Upon reopening in August, the charter school or charter school network will assure that all brick and mortar schools are open at least five days per week for all students subject to advice and orders of the Florida Department of Health, local departments of health, Executive Order 20-149, and subsequent executive orders.

Assurance 2: The charter school or charter school network must provide the full array of services that are required by law so that families who wish to educate their children in a brick and mortar school have the opportunity to do so. These services include in-person instruction, specialized instruction for students with an Individual Educational Plan (IEP) and those services required for vulnerable populations, such as students from low-income families, students of migrant workers, students who are homeless, students with disabilities, students in foster care, and students who are English language learners (ELLs).

Assurance 3: The charter school or charter school network will provide robust progress monitoring to all students; tiered support must be provided to all students who are not making adequate progress. If a student is receiving instruction through innovative teaching methods fails to make adequate progress, the student must be provided additional support and the opportunity to transition to another teaching method.

Assurance 4: The charter school or charter school network will work with IEP teams to determine needed services, including compensatory services for students with disabilities. Charter schools must immediately begin working with IEP teams to identify students who may have regressed during school closures. IEP teams must follow a student-centered approach with a commitment to ensure that the individual needs of each child are met.

Assurance 5: The charter school or charter school network will work with ELL Committees to identify ELLs who have regressed and determine if additional or

supplemental English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) services are needed. Charter schools should ensure that appropriate identification of English skills has been noted and that schools have the resources to implement additional interventions and strategies.

□ **Assurance 6:** Progress monitoring data must be shared regularly by the charter school with its sponsoring school district, in a manner prescribed by the Department.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all of the parents who took the time to complete the re-opening parent survey. We would also like to thank the following faculty and staff who helped work on the re-opening plan for the Tiger Academy.

Lauren Gibbs, Executive Director

Charles McWhite, Principal

Tumika Mondy, Assistant Principal

Tonia Fuller, Math and Science Coach

Lorien Horn, Building Manager

Jacqueline Bourne, Pre-Kindergarten Lead Teacher

Alexandra Capobianco, First Grade Teacher

Rodina Hughes, Second Grade Teacher

Jasmine Butler, Third Grade Teacher

Leanne Gorman, Technology Specialist

Jennifer Tardif, Guidance Counselor