



August 12, 2021

Dear Legacy Prep Village,

We hope you and your scholars are having a great week! We are reaching out with an update about an adjustment to our Covid-19 reopening plan. Over the course of the past two weeks, we have continued to carefully examine the increasing rates of COVID-19 transmission in our school, city, and state. The State of Alabama has not declared a state of emergency nor is our school authorized by the State to have a permanent 100% virtual school.

With these factors in mind, we have been thinking about the best way to support our staff, scholars, and families to ensure our school community remains safe-physically, emotionally, and mentally. With guidance from Legacy's internal Reopening Advisory Committee, the Legacy Prep Board of Directors approved for Legacy to **temporarily** offer a hybrid option at tonight's board meeting. We found huge success and positive feedback from all stakeholder groups that our equity-based approach during Fall 2020 was extremely effective. As such, we will implement the same approach.

**Here's what this means:**

- We will start the hybrid learning model on August 30th. All scholars will remain in-person until August 30th.
- The hybrid learning model will be in place for the remainder of the first trimester of 2021 (August 30th-November 5th).
- Legacy Prep is implementing virtual learning for a *majority* of our scholars. We value equity and access for all members of our village; therefore, Legacy Prep is able to provide in-person, traditional learning for a subset of scholars. This subset will consist of scholars with exceptionalities and families with extenuating hardships.
- Interested families will complete a hardship application to determine eligibility and be notified of the decision.

**IMPORTANT ACTION:**

1. **Every family must fill out** our Fall 2021 Learning Form found [here](#) or <https://bit.ly/LPFall2021>. This form also includes our Hardship Application. **The form is due by 9:00PM on Sunday, August 15th.**

**What happens next:**

- A committee will review hardship applications anonymously and according to a rubric, to ensure there is no bias in this decision. Families will be notified of the result of your hardship application for in-person learning by end of day on Tuesday, August 17th.
- Our staff and Reopening Advisory Committee (RAC) will work relentlessly to ensure the proper infrastructure is in place for our scholars (Chromebooks, instructional materials, etc.)
- The instructional and operations team will lead training sessions for scholars and families on how to navigate a smooth transition to virtual learning.

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Our Operations team will communicate logistics and operations as we finalize. Items include: material pick up, virtual learning schedule, accessing Panther Place, etc. We aim to be as proactive as possible. We thank you in advance for your patience as we roll new information out.

We believe that making this decision now- rather than awaiting external decision making is what is in the best interest of our village. We will continue to monitor the impact of the Covid-19 virus and reassess our learning model and communicate our path forward for the 2nd Trimester mid-to-late October. We realize the situation is ever-changing and we will expect state guidance to change as circumstances dictate.

Through this pandemic we have continually prioritized safety and this decision is the safest option to minimize virus exposure to our entire school community. We recognize that the most ideal option is for all of our scholars to remain in-person. We were optimistic that we would be able to do so! However, the lives of our staff, scholars, and families are at stake and we must keep the health and safety of our village first. We remain committed to ensuring our PREPsters and families have a meaningful and exceptional experience no matter the learning experience method.

I acknowledge the breadth of all that we have experienced the past two school years. And yet, I am reminded of how much we have to be grateful for and proud of. Our community's strength and devotion to our scholars is palpable. I have a distinct window each day into the dedication that makes a magnificent Legacy experience possible for all of the children in our care. It is often in moments of challenge that our strengths are most genuinely revealed. As such, I thank you all, our families and colleagues for your ardent commitment to who we are as a school and our need to exist in the world of education.

As always, please reach out with questions and concerns. Feel free to call Legacy Prep directly at 205-573-0777 and we'd be happy to talk with you. We are so appreciative of your feedback and positivity as we navigate new waters and always strive to do what's best for our scholars and families.

**With gratitude, love, and partnership,**

Jonta Morris  
Founder and CEO  
Legacy Prep Charter School

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