



8/14/2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Scholars,

In 2012, I wrote the Charter for Argosy Collegiate to establish Fall River's only college preparatory, public middle and high school. It has not been easy, but it has been an incredibly successful journey so far! No one could have known that pandemic planning and managing a long-term health and financial crisis would be part of our collective experience. Despite that, I couldn't be more proud of Argosy's DREAM Team and their relentless support for scholars.

Argosy Collegiate's mission to prepare scholars for **college, career, and life** is as important today as it was the day we opened our doors in 2014. Our **DREAM** Values of **D**etermination, **R**espect, **E**xcellence, **A**ltruism, **M**aturity create the foundation for our scholars' academic success day to day, AND perfectly support the skills we need to navigate the rough seas ahead. As we push forward in our reopening planning, we know that no plan is going to be perfect, or meet the needs of everyone.

Our reopening plan is based on the following two priorities;

1. The health and safety of our scholars, staff, and families.
2. The engagement, social & emotional well-being, and academic progress of our scholars.

The following plan must be approved by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

An in-person model for 100% of our scholars is not possible, at least for the beginning of the school year. Therefore, the following two models will take the lead in our return to school plan;

- A 100% Remote Learning Plan
- A Remote/Hybrid Model

We will add in-person learning for all scholars as conditions allow, but not until the medical community reports better data and/or guidance from the state is clear that we can do so. Detailed information about these plans are provided in the following document.

Our focus, as always, is to provide the highest quality education to all of our scholars in a safe environment, whether remote or in person. The 2020/21 school year is an incredibly important year for Argosy Collegiate as we finish our seven-year growth plan, complete our 30,000 square foot high school expansion, and graduate our first cohort of scholars. More than half of our high school graduates will leave Argosy Collegiate with three semesters of college courses completed - ready to take on the rest of their college courses and fulfilling their DREAMS!

Be well,

Kristen Pavao

Founder & Executive Director

COLLEGE. CAREER. LIFE.



Argosy Collegiate Charter School: 2020/21 School Re-opening Plan

Introduction

The primary goal of the 2020/2021 school year is to maintain the health, safety, and wellness of the Argosy Collegiate community - scholars, staff and families. As the COVID19 pandemic continues, Fall River is one of the communities in Massachusetts with the highest positive testing rate. As such, a tremendous amount of research and planning has taken place this summer in preparation for the start of the 2020/2021 school year, with a focus on keeping the Argosy Collegiate community safe. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has developed strict regulations that schools across the state are expected to follow. The regulations are clear - staff and scholars must wear a mask while maintaining a minimum of 3 feet of social distancing. Within Argosy Collegiate facilities, this expectation is impossible to adhere to for all scholars to attend in-person instruction 100% of the time. We eagerly anticipate assurance from medical professionals that more relaxed social distancing measures will not create a higher risk of contracting COVID19 within our community, therefore allowing full time, in-person instruction to resume.

Given the space within our facilities, it remains our commitment to scholars and families to provide rigorous instruction grounded in the skills necessary to prepare scholars for success in college, career and life. We have learned a great deal about remote learning in the emergency closure during the spring of 2020. As educators, we must adapt to this ever-changing situation and push forward with the goal of developing the social, emotional, and academic skills of our scholars that we know are fundamental to success after high school. Virtual learning that is rigorous, all inclusive, and meets Argosy Collegiate high standard of quality, can be achieved with the true partnership of our families, staff and scholars. It is these important elements that will support and prepare our scholars on their academic journey and beyond.

The purpose of this document is to outline the three options for resuming school at the start of the 2020/2021 school year. It is important to note that this information is 'up to date' as of the time of writing, but is likely to shift or change based on new health data or state directives. Information from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health is released almost daily.

The table below demonstrates a phased approach to reopening that Argosy Collegiate will be taking. **At the time of this submission, we anticipate reopening at either Phase 1 or Phase 2.** However, given the unpredictability of this pandemic, and the potential local, state, and federal responses, we are also prepared to reopen in a 100% remote model if needed.



Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5
<p>Remote</p> <p>100% remote learning for 100% scholars</p>	<p>Remote/Hybrid</p> <p>(Except for Scholars with High Needs)</p> <p>In-person: 4 - 7 scholars per in-person group</p> <p>Remote: Remaining scholars attend remotely</p> <p>In-person scholars work in stable groups with help from teachers. There are no class transitions.</p>	<p>Hybrid</p> <p>In-person: 7 - 12 scholars (High School) and 7 - 15 scholars (Middle School) per in-person group/</p> <p>Remote: Remaining scholars attend remote</p> <p>Phase 3 follows the same stable group model as Phase 2 with an increase in the number of in-person scholars in each group. There are no class transitions.</p>	<p>Hybrid</p> <p>In-person: 12 - 15 scholars per class</p> <p>Scholars would follow an on/off schedule so that all scholars would have in-person learning opportunities.</p> <p>Remote: When not in-person, scholars would attend remotely</p> <p>In-person scholars now transition to different classrooms and receive direct instruction from teachers.</p>	<p>Full In-Person</p> <p>All scholars are in-person 100% of the day</p>

Phase 1: 100% remote learning for 100% of our scholars

Phase 2: Remote/Hybrid

In-person: 4 - 7 scholars per in-person group (No direct instruction or class transitions)

Remote: Remaining scholar population

Following DESE’s directives, this model gives preference to scholars with high needs (defined as students with disabilities, EL scholars, and scholars who did not engage well in spring remote learning - pending parent choice). Scholars would be identified based on their Level of Need (PL3 form of IEP for SE scholars, and scholars in the foundational English proficiency levels for EL scholars). Small groups of in-person scholars would be assigned a classroom and attend in-person instruction for half-days, while participating in virtual instruction during the second half of the day. In this classroom group, scholars would engage in their content instruction (computer-based instruction) with the support of general education, special education, and/or English language teachers. This can be thought of as a “learning pod” model in which these groups of scholars and teachers stay in stable groups during the morning in-person sessions. This model also allows us to phase in the number of scholars in the building. Scholars in the remote learning model would follow the PM schedule.

Phase 3: Hybrid

In-person: 7-12 scholars (High School) and 7-15 scholars (Middle School) per in-person group

Remote: Remaining scholar population

Phase 3 follows the same stable group model as Phase 2 with an increase in the number of in-person scholars in each group.



Phase 4: Hybrid

In-person: 12 - 15 scholars per class (Direct instruction and class transitions)

Remote: Remaining scholar population

This model would expand on the Level 3 Hybrid model, where more scholars would have access to in-person learning, again allowing us to phase up to allow the maximum number of scholars in the building while maintaining social distance requirements. We would eventually build up to 15 scholars in MS classrooms, and 12 scholars in HS classrooms. It is important to note that the 15 scholars at the MS and 12 scholars at the HS, per classroom is the maximum number of scholars we are able to accommodate while allowing for social distancing requirements. This would be the final phase before launching full, in-person instruction. Scholars would follow an on/off schedule so that all scholars would have in-person learning opportunities.

Phase 5: In-Person: All scholars are in-person 100% of the day, normal school model

Phase 5 is not an option at this time. Until there is evidence and confidence communicated from the medical community (i.e. a vaccine, herd immunity, flattened curve for sustained time), Phase 5 is not yet safe for scholars, staff, and families.

Nutrition

Argosy Collegiate Charter School will continue providing meals to all scholars, regardless of which learning model takes place during the 2020/2021 school year. We await confirmation from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education regarding a potential partnership with the Fall River Public School district, and if meals can be provided to entire families.

Learning Models

In-Person Learning Model

This learning model would allow for all scholars in the building, while upholding the safety requirements of mask wearing and social distancing. Scholars would resume their “regular” schedule. ***The Argosy Collegiate Charter School facilities do not allow for this model while upholding the minimum social distance requirement of 3 feet.***

We eagerly await assurance from medical professionals that relaxed social distancing measures are safe, so that full time, in-person instruction may resume.



Hybrid Learning Model

Following the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE's) guidance, this hybrid model prioritizes in-person instruction for scholars with the highest levels of need (as defined by DESE as those with Individual Education Plans and English Learners). All other scholars will be provided rigorous, independent, and live, real-time remote learning. The following provides detailed information for this model.

- Families of scholars with IEP's and/or English language learners may still choose the fully remote learning model for their scholar.
- Individual remote learning plans will be developed for scholars with IEPs and English Learners.
- All scholars will have access to an individual Chromebook for use at school and at home with which to engage in virtual learning and remote instruction.
- All scholars will have access to online coursework through Edgenuity, an instructional tool for teachers to use to implement online curriculum in the core content areas and in the area of social emotional learning. We will continue to use Google Classroom as our learning management system and use other online resources, including IXL, Actively Learn, and Pearson to support learning.
- For scholars participating in the hybrid model, the school day will be a blend of live, real-time instruction and independent learning. Scholars with highest needs opting to attend in-person would attend school and participate in live, real-time learning for 3 hours and an additional 2.5 hours of independent learning time.
- Scholars participating in remote learning will follow the same model, with 3 hours of real-time learning through video-conferencing tools (e.g., Zoom) and 2.5 hours of independent learning time each day.
- Wednesdays will be fully remote for all scholars. Middle School scholars will participate in live, real-time Specials (e.g., Art, Health, Physical Education, and Collegiate Skills) classes on Wednesdays. High School scholars will participate in independent learning including Bristol Community College coursework and other electives such as Argosy Collegiate foreign language and Art courses. High school scholars will also engage in their Health and Physical Education classes.
- To support the hybrid model, all staff will report to their respective school campuses daily. Staff will deliver live, real-time instruction for in-person scholars and through video-conferencing for those accessing instruction remotely.
- Staff will track scholar attendance and work completion for scholars participating in the in-person *and* remote learning models. Instruction will align with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks for each grade-level and content.
Evaluation of scholar work will result in percentage and letter grades for scholars in both in-person and remote learning models.
- Transportation will be available for qualified students who have been prioritized for in-person learning.



Remote Learning Model

- All scholars will have access to an individual Chromebook with which to engage in virtual learning and remote instruction.
 - All scholars will have access to online coursework through Edgenuity, an instructional tool for teachers to use to implement online curriculum, including Social Emotional Learning and supports. We will continue to use Google Classroom as our learning management system and other online resources, including IXL, Actively Learn, and Pearson.
 - Individual remote learning plans will be developed for scholars with IEPs and English Learners.
 - The school day will be a blend of live, real-time instruction and independent / project based learning.
 - All scholars will participate in 3 hours of real-time learning through video-conferencing tools (e.g., Zoom) and 2.5 hours of independent learning time each day.
 - On Wednesdays, Middle School scholars will participate in live, real-time Specials classes (e.g., Art, Health, Physical Education, and Collegiate Skills). High School scholars will participate in independent learning including Bristol Community College coursework and other electives such as Argosy Collegiate foreign language and Art courses. High school scholars will also engage in their Health and Physical Education classes.
 - All staff will report to their respective school campuses daily. Staff will deliver live, real-time instruction for in-person scholars and through video-conferencing for those accessing instruction remotely. In the event of a stay-at-home order, staff would conduct their remote learning from home.
 - Staff will track scholar attendance and work completion for scholars participating in the in-person *and* remote learning models. Instruction will align with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks for each grade-level and content.
- Evaluation of scholar work will result in percentage and letter grades for scholars in both in-person and remote learning models.**

Specials (Phys. Ed., Art, etc.) and Athletics:

Per DESE's guidance, sports will not be available if the school is implementing a remote learning model or if a scholar has selected a remote learning model. All middle school scholars and high school scholars enrolled in art courses will receive art supplies to support their remote learning.

Out-of-School Time Plan

- At the High School level, remote virtual Credit Recovery support will continue to be available after school once a week. Credit Recovery will be facilitated by staff delivering live, real-time support through video-conferencing.



- At the Middle School level, Saturday Academy will continue to be provided through remote learning tools and facilitated by staff. Virtual Saturday Academy will be available for individualized scholar support in ELA and Math for 1.5 hours twice monthly.

Student Supports and Professional Learning

Revised 2020/2021 School Calendar

Argosy Collegiate 2020-2021 Calendar																																																																																																			
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Argosy Collegiate places the health and safety of all scholars, staff and community at the forefront of our reopening plans and will adhere to all of the guidelines set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary education contained in the following:

- [DESE Fall Re-Opening Guidelines](#)
- [DESE Protocols for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios](#)
- [DESE Remote Learning Guidance for Fall 2020](#)

Health, Safety, and Wellness Measures:

Argosy Collegiate Charter School has revised a number of its health, safety and wellness measures, in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Massachusetts Department of

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Elementary and Secondary Education.

- **Scholar and Staff Safety Training:** In accordance with the Center for Disease Control guidelines, staff participated in a virtual safety training in June of 2020. Additional safety training, facilitated by the Argosy Collegiate nurses, will be held prior to any in-person learning. Social distancing and other practices are required to maintain safety measures as required by the state of Massachusetts and Governor Baker.
- **Cohorts/Class Sizes:** Revised class placements to minimize the need for scholars to travel within the building as well as significantly reduced class sizes to accommodate at least 3 feet of social distancing.
- **Wearing Face Shields/Masks:** All staff, scholars, and visitors will be required to wear face coverings throughout the day when in the building allowing for safe mask “breaks.” Per the state of Massachusetts, it is expected that families will provide masks or face coverings for the scholar.
- **Physical Distancing:** Whenever possible, the Center for Disease Control guidelines for 6 feet of physical separation will be adhered. Within their smaller cohorts, scholars and staff will maintain 3 feet of separation.
- **Assigned Seats:** Assigned seating and placement in line will be given to scholars.
- **Common Areas:** To eliminate cohorts or stable groups from coming together, common areas will be avoided and/or repurposed for other uses such as additional classroom space, as needed.
- **Hand Washing/ Sanitizing:** Scholars will be monitored and directed to washing their hands and sanitizing frequently throughout the day. During arrival or dismissal times, lunch or snack time, and applying their mask at any other appropriate intervals, scholars will be directed to hand washing and sanitizing practices throughout the day.
- **Monitoring for Symptoms:** Parents/caregivers should keep their scholar at home if they are exhibiting any symptoms including a raise in temperature, coughing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, headache, muscle or body aches, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, fatigue or diarrhea. A staff member or scholar with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or over will be sent home and not allowed to return to school. All staff are required to monitor their symptoms and should remain at home or report to the School Nurse if exhibiting any symptoms at school. Should a scholar or staff member be feeling any COVID19 symptoms, the individual must be tested for active COVID19 prior to returning to school.

Transportation: Argosy Collegiate partners with Fall River Public Schools in providing transportation for scholars. Bussing guidance has been provided, and Argosy Collegiate will adhere to the safety and health guidelines, including:

- Masks are required for all scholars on the bus.
- 3 feet distancing as a minimum requirement will be adhered.

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- Use of ventilation by opening all windows as safety and weather conditions allow.
- One scholar per seat.

Facilities Preparations:

- The school has contracted with its facilities management company to include frequent, regular disinfectant-level cleaning of both Argosy Collegiate campuses.
- Addition of hand sanitizer dispensers in every classroom and in commonly used areas.
- Upgrading of the school's heating, cooling, and ventilation systems to include anti-viral, anti-bacterial filters.

Purchasing of Personal Protective Equipment, including:

- Disposable masks
- Face shields
- Gowns
- N95 Masks for School Nurses
- Hand Sanitizer
- Goggles
- Plexi-glass dividers
- Sanitizing wipes
- Sanitizing dispensers
- Approved cleaning agents to disinfect COVID19

Prior to the start of the 2020/21 school year, Argosy Collegiate will certify that we meet the final health and safety requirements issued by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. It is anticipated that the final list of these requirements will be available in the coming weeks.

Social Emotional Supports:

- Argosy Collegiate Charter School has recently created a revised School Adjustment Counselor Model of Excellence to prepare for the enhanced need of our scholars, families, and staff. Increased classroom instruction time and family supports are two of the major additions to this model. School Adjustment Counselors will be able to model in the classroom (whether in person or remote learning times) appropriate responses to the social emotional needs of our scholars.
- Additionally, a Social Emotional Learning component of Edgenuity was purchased for the 2020/2021 school year as a curriculum tool which will greatly support this Model of Excellence. Ongoing work on the training of staff to implement the new support will take place in the Summer Institute in August.
- In anticipation of a greater need for social-emotional learning supports, there will be a total of 4 School Adjustment Counselors (2 at the Middle and 2 at the High School) to ensure supports are provided for scholars, and experts in social-emotional learning



are available to collaborate with teachers.

- Based on the success of Argosy Collegiate Charter's district-wide advisory model, we will continue to provide each scholar with an advisor to support academic engagement and social emotional health. The advisors will connect weekly with their scholars and families to share information and updates, answer questions, and to connect families with resources to ensure scholar's successful academic engagement.
- A Scholar Mentor Program has been created to provide further support to scholars through a safe, healthy, and positive connection to community agencies and professional affiliations.

Interventions:

Argosy Collegiate has revised and modified its Response to Intervention (RtI) process to more appropriately mirror the Multi-Tiered System of Supports recommended by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The purpose of this revision is to ensure that scholars' needs are identified and appropriately met. Staff training will take place during the Staff Summer Institute to ensure all everyone is trained, prepared, and updated.

Individual Competency Plans for Success (ICPS):

In preparation for scholars' enhanced need of academic support after the closure, Argosy Collegiate has developed and created a process to effectively support scholars furthest from academic proficiency and to design a pathway of success during these challenging times. The model begins with the identification of scholars furthest from academic proficiency and then works to align their needs with appropriate resources. A team of ICPS is drafted then clearly articulated and communicated to scholars, staff, and families. These plans were created and shared with scholars, staff and families to develop needed and identified academic, social and emotional learning and support during the summer of 2020 and also to follow scholars through the 2020/2021 school year.

Enhanced Remote Learning Models for 2020/2021:

The Director of Curriculum and Instruction along with the Instructional Team works closely with Edgenuity, the virtual curriculum support program with whom we recently licensed. Edgenuity offers rigorous, Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks aligned courses, booster classes, interventions, and enrichment for middle and high school scholars. Edgenuity also offers professional development to ensure teachers are able to effectively implement these tools to meet the instructional needs of scholars impacted by the school closure. Edgenuity is a flexible program that is adaptable to a range of in-person, remote, or hybrid models, allowing Argosy Collegiate to be well-prepared for each scenario.



Dual Enrollment for 2020/2021:

We continue to work closely with Bristol Community College to provide scholars with a rich dual enrollment program for the 2020/2021 school year. This year will include a mix of contracted courses (purchased by Argosy Collegiate for our scholars) and individual seats in select courses for our upperclassmen. All Bristol Community College dual enrollment courses will be delivered remotely. Argosy Collegiate teachers will support scholars in their dual enrollment coursework either on-site or remotely as determined by our return to school plans.