2020-2021 Hart County Charter System Instructional Options

July 14, 2020

On July 13, 2020, members of the Hart County Board of Education voted to adjust the 2020-2021 school calendar. The first day of school for students will now be August 17, 2020. Specific details regarding school start-up, including open house dates for all schools, will be released in the coming weeks.

School will begin with two instructional options: in-person and virtual. The in-person option will comply with guidelines set forth by the Governor and the Georgia Department of Education. Those interested in participating in the virtual option will be required to register. The registration deadline for the virtual option is July 30, 2020. A parent's decision will be enforced for the entire first semester, which is scheduled to end on December 18, 2020.

Traditional, In-Person Option

The in-person option is the default option. <u>If a student is not registered for the virtual option by July 30, he/she will be scheduled for traditional, in-person learning.</u>

- This option will follow the Georgia Department of Education's Path to Recovery.
- Teachers will begin the year instructing and modeling the use of Google Classroom sites, which offer access to instruction and assignments. This will be vital to your child's success should the district experience required school closures in the coming months.
- Additional processes and procedures will be in place to limit the spread of germs so as to provide safe, engaging learning experiences for all.

K-5 Virtual Option

The K-5 virtual learning option will NOT look the same as the virtual experience offered at the conclusion of the 19-20 school year. Expectations for participation, attendance, and work completion will be similar to the district's in-person option. Students will participate in five, full school days each week (unless the calendar allows for a holiday). Specific details and training will be shared before this option begins. This option will require a **significant** commitment from both parents/guardians and students.

Important notes regarding K-5 virtual learning:

- The Hart County Charter System will staff in-person and virtual learning options with existing teachers. At the elementary level, the teacher assigned to your child may not physically work at your child's zoned school. For example, a first grade teacher from Hartwell Elementary may serve first graders from Hartwell Elementary, North Hart Elementary, and South Hart Elementary.
- The virtual learning commitment will remain in effect for the entire first semester (August through December) and cannot be changed.
- Assessments, such as chapter and unit tests, quizzes, MAP benchmarks, etc., may be completed
 after regular school hours and on school campuses. In such cases, social distancing guidelines will
 be practiced, and parents will wait outside school buildings for their students.
- Students will attend and participate in daily, video lessons. Attendance will be taken.
- Students will complete all assignments provided by teachers.

- Teachers will provide video-based instruction similar to classroom instruction through their classroom
 Educam System.
- Teachers will provide classwork and homework via Google Classroom and other various software programs, and feedback will be provided to monitor students' progress.
- Teachers will be available to answer questions during class periods and pre-arranged 'office' hours.
- Parents/Guardians will be responsible for providing reliable internet service.
- Schools will provide Chromebooks for students in need of a device.
- Participation grades will not be awarded to students. Grades will reflect academic performance.
- Students will be responsible for adhering to the procedures and guidelines located in the Hart County Charter System Chromebook Digital Citizenship Agreement and Acceptable Use Policy.

To register for virtual learning, click the registration link at the bottom of this document. The deadline of July 30, 2020 will be strictly enforced so as to allow the district to plan accordingly.

6-12 Virtual Option

The 6-12 virtual learning option will NOT look the same as the virtual experience offered at the conclusion of the 19-20 school year. Expectations for participation, attendance, and work completion will be similar to the district's in-person option. Students will participate in five, full school days each week (unless the calendar allows for a holiday). Specific details and training will be shared before this option begins. This option will require a significant commitment from both parents/guardians and students.

Important notes regarding 6-12 virtual learning:

- The Hart County Charter System will staff in-person and virtual learning options with existing teachers.
- Students will attend scheduled classes via Google Meet. Attendance will be taken.
- Students will complete all assignments provided by teachers.
- Assessments, such as chapter tests, quizzes, MAP benchmarks, etc., may be completed after regular school hours and on school campuses. In such cases, social distancing guidelines will be practiced, and parents will wait outside school buildings for their students.
- Teachers will provide video-based instruction similar to classroom instruction through their classroom Educam System.
- Teachers will provide classwork and homework via Google Classroom and other various software programs, and feedback will be provided to monitor students' progress.
- Teachers will be available to answer questions during class periods and during pre-arranged 'office' hours.
- Parents/Guardians will be responsible for providing reliable internet service.
- Schools will provide Chromebooks for students in need of a device.
- Participation grades will not be awarded to students. Grades will reflect academic performance.
- Students will be responsible for adhering to the procedures and guidelines located in the Hart County Charter System Chromebook Digital Citizenship Agreement and Acceptable Use Policy.

To register for virtual learning, complete the registration form using this link: https://forms.gle/16n8G2ZbUFHkmtvZ9 The deadline of July 30, 2020 will be strictly enforced so as to allow the district to plan accordingly.

For Questions, please contact one of the following and or <u>Please refer to the Frequently Asked</u> <u>Questions Document for any questions</u>

Important Phone Numbers and Names

Hartwell Elementary: 706-376-4425, Principal Lydia Bennett North Hart Elementary: 706-856-7369, Principal Haley Smith South Hart Elementary: 706-856-7383, Principal J.T. Stewart Hart County Middle School: 706-376-5431, Principal Jackie Brock Hart County High School: 706-376-5461, Principal Kevin Gaines

Hart County Board of Education: 706-376-5141