



Ball Charter Schools Academic Update August 12, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The safe and expedient opening of school is a top priority for our Governing Boards and school administrators at Arizona Ball Charter Schools. Your continued support and participation in our outstanding academic programs are appreciated.

Of all the challenges facing the Ball Charter Schools communities during this time of Covid-19, one of the most difficult is how we can continue to provide an exemplary education for all of our students while still maintaining their safety and the safety of our staff and faculty.

Our goal is to provide the safest and best education for your student. Whether it be in-person, online, or a combination of both, and we are dedicated to continuing to provide the same high level of education that you have come to expect from Ball Charter Schools.

After considering staff, faculty, and student-families' input, along with current Covid-19 metrics and guidance from the Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS) regarding school reopening, Arizona Ball Charter Schools Governing Boards have approved the following dates:

- Distance learning will begin for all students on August 17, 2020.
- On-site learning opportunities and support services will be provided also beginning on August 17, 2020 for those students/families who are unable to delay in-person instruction to August 24th or have no other place to go.
- In-person instruction will begin for all students on August 24, 2020 for families who selected this model for the first quarter of this school year.
- Students who are in need of onsite learning will be supervised and provided options to use devices as needed. If a student has their own device, it may be used during this time for school purposes only.
- Dobson Academy has a large number of teachers who would prefer their homeroom students be in their classrooms during this onsite learning opportunity, August 17th-August 21st. Your student will be in their homeroom classroom and following the in person schedule as delivered from 8:30-3:30. Please be on time.
- Students who are unable to be in their homerooms will be in a room supervised by an adult staff member with a device.





Dobson Academy

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- Students who participate in onsite learning opportunities Monday August 17th will follow the same protocol for health and safety for in person learning. Please follow the drop off and pick up procedures. Masks and uniforms are required on campus. Please review the mitigation plan and mask policy on our website.
- Student may bring individual snacks and a time will be allocated for them to eat. Please have your child bring a fillable water bottle. Students eligible for school nutrition program such as free and reduced breakfast and lunch will receive meals. Breakfast and lunch will also be available to purchase.
- Before and after care program available from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. for families in need of childcare. Please contact Cindhy Cabrera at ccabrera@ballcharterschools.org to enroll. There is a deadline of August 14th, 12:00 p.m. for those would like to receive childcare services for the week beginning Monday, August 17th and ending Friday August 22nd. Space is limited.

"In-person instruction" refers to a traditional congregate setting with face-to-face teacher-led instruction that occurs in a physical classroom.

"On-site learning opportunities and support services" or "on-site support services" means targeted support services offered directly to students when the school is not open for in-person instruction.

"Distance learning" means the delivery of instruction to students who may not be physically present in a school building. This may include synchronous or asynchronous lessons provided through online instruction, delivery of instructional materials and supplies, independent study, or project-based instruction.

Each of our school campuses is undertaking extensive safety protocols that include, but are not limited to, safe distancing, hygienic ventilation systems, mask guidelines, and prescreening procedures. We understand how challenging it has been to make definitive plans within an ever evolving and unpredictable environment such as this. The in-person instruction beginning date of August 24, 2020 is firm, at this time, provided that AZDHS Covid-19 metrics do not warrant the consideration of further postponement.

During this unprecedented time, Arizona Ball Charter Schools continues to be committed to data-informed and people-focused decision making that supports both the need for health and safety along with the educational needs of our students and families.

If you have any questions, please contact your school's administrator.

Regards,

Arizona Ball Charter Schools Governing Boards

John Huppenthal, President

Mike Sobieski, Vice President



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Hearn Academy

Val Vista Academy