

Aspen View Academy

Back to School Plan

SY2020-2021

Bring Back the Wolves!



ASPEN VIEW



ACADEMY

Innovation • Excellence • Wisdom

Summary

Parent & Staff Survey Responses

- A majority of parents want their kids back in school every day
- A majority of staff want the students back in the building every day
- Both parents and staff expressed concerns around restrictive guidelines and the potential impact on traditional learning (masks, social distancing, etc.)
- Additionally parents and staff expressed that they would feel uncomfortable without restrictive guidelines in place (masks, temperature checks, hand sanitizing, social distancing...)

AVA Back to School Values & Goals

- Continue the academic rigor that AVA is known for
- Establish benchmark assessments to continue targeted instruction and/or intervention
- Honor parent choice and family circumstances
- Stay true to our mission & vision
- Maintain the safety and care for our students, staff & community
- Continue to evaluate and make decisions based on data and best practices
- Recognize & respect individual and differing viewpoints
- Establish and maintain contingency plans
- Common sense 😊

Considerations

Things we can control

- Our academic program & school culture
- Creating learning options for students & parents
- How we respond to state & district guidelines
- Our schedule & calendar
- Number of adults in the building
- Facility cleanliness & safety

Things we cannot control

- The pandemic
- Public Health Orders
- Governor's Executive Orders
- Building closure orders
- Ever-changing COVID-19 data
- Education funding

AVA's K-8 Choice-Based Learning Scenarios

Reminder: There are 3 learning scenarios for the fall based on state mandates/guidelines:

- 1. Full In-Person Learning**
- 2. Full eLearning – if state mandated**
- 3. Full In-Person platform OR full eLearning platform (this is what AVA plans to move forward with)**

1. Full In-Person Learning

- Business as usual
- Similar to Pre-Pandemic school routines
- No student cohort groups

As of now, this cannot even be a consideration for fall

2. Full eLearning – If State Mandated

- State mandated; students NOT allowed in the building
- All students MUST participate in eLearning
- During-pandemic school routines (similar to the spring)
- Based on staff and parent feedback, there will be increased expectations that better model AVA's academic rigor and expectations
- AVA cannot opt out of this option if mandated by the state
- Students will be issued a laptop, if needed
- While every effort will be made, eLearning cannot replicate all of the rich in-classroom learning and experiences

As of now, this is not a state mandated requirement.

OVERVIEW OF BACK TO SCHOOL PLAN 2020

Parents will be asked to select an option before returning to school:

- Option 1: Full-time in-Person Learning 5 days per week
- Option 2: Full-time eLearning 5 days per week

Considerations & Requirements:

- Parents make a selection no later than Tuesday, August 4th and commit through the 1st trimester
- Parents will be allowed to reselect/change at the end of the 1st trimester and again at Winter Break (if applicable)
- eLearning will require a parents to sign an acknowledgement of eLearning expectations form

Important to note:

In-Person and eLearning students will receive the same synchronous live instruction whether they are in the classroom or at home on their eLearning device.

3. Full In-Person platform OR full eLearning platform (parents choose their preferred platform)

Full In-Person Learning

- Student schedule will be similar to how in-person learning looked before the pandemic
- Students are in the classroom as usual
- Health and safety measures will be followed (discussed in later slides)
- Students will be placed in cohorts of roughly 25 students.

Full eLearning

- Students will receive synchronous live instruction by logging onto their AVVA issued device meaning students will see/hear the same instruction as the in-person students.
- The goal for students who opt to participate in full eLearning is to provide an educational experience that is as close to as if they were attending in-class learning
- Students would be expected to follow the in-person schedule that their grade level teachers establish
- Attendance will be recorded and monitored
- Grading will follow AVA's traditional grading model for accountability

3. Full In-Person platform OR full eLearning platform (contd.)

eLearning considerations:

- The goal for students in eLearning is to provide an educational experience that is as close to as if they were attending in-class learning
- AVA's plan is to implement a system where students can ask questions and participate in class discussions
- This scenario requires parent/adult supervision and coordination in order to ensure that all eLearning students are participating in required classes and learning opportunities
- Parents of eLearners will sign an agreement outlining expectations

E-LEARNING OPTION

The following students will be able to participate in eLearning:

- Students whose parents designate them as eLearners for whatever reason.
- Students who are required to quarantine due to COVID-19 exposure.
- All students in the case of a school closure.

eLearning Considerations

- The goal is to align with and keep up with In-Person Learning, therefore the expectations, time commitment, workload, and grading for eLearners will be similar to In-Person, and significantly more than last spring.
- Students will be issued a laptop.
- **Google**, designed for education, is our platform for eLearners, including organizing materials and resources, virtual sessions, assignments, etc.
- eLearning includes live virtual sessions daily, recorded lessons, small group sessions, and independent work.
- Parents of designated eLearners must complete the AVA Acknowledgment of eLearning Expectations form.
- Students need a quiet place to work and participate in virtual sessions; background noise during virtual session disrupts learning for all students.
- Students may need to come to the building to take assessments.
- AVA discipline procedures will be reinforced during eLearning.
- Learning supplies will be distributed to eLearners

eLearning

- **Homeroom Assignment:** K-8 eLearners will be assigned to an eLearning “homeroom”. The number of eLearning homerooms will depend on the number of people who opt for eLearning.
- **Daily Schedule:** eLearners will be expected to follow a daily schedule, similar to In-Person Learning. Class periods may include live sessions, video lessons, small group live sessions as appropriate, independent work (student completes class work or activities, paper or computer-based, on their own), specials (may be live or recorded), and appropriate breaks.
- **Attendance:** Attendance will be recorded daily. Parents need to notify the school if their child cannot participate in the day’s eLearning.
- **Curriculum:** eLearning curriculum will follow the standard grade-level curriculum.
- **Workload Expectations:** In order to ensure eLearners keep up with In-Person Learners, eLearners will meet the same student work deadlines as required of in-person learners.

eLearning Continued

- **Parent Supervision:** Elementary eLearners will require some level of parent supervision. The level of supervision needed will depend on the child's age, level of independence, attention span, ability to follow a schedule, and ability to focus on tasks that must be completed independently. For example, parents may have to assist with logging on to a virtual session at a set time, ensure the child is watching an assigned video or working on an assignment, supervise break times, etc.).
- **Teacher Availability:** During the school day, teachers will be conducting live sessions with students, recording lessons for students, facilitating multiple small groups, assisting individual students as needed, planning instruction, grading assignments and assessments, and answering parent emails when possible. Teachers may have weekly office hours during the school day to address student (and parent) questions. Otherwise, parents may email teachers to schedule a remote meeting, allowing 48 hours for a response.
- **Grading:** Grades will be assigned to classes as they would be for In-Person Learning. All assignments must be completed and turned in by the due date specified by the Remote Learning teacher. Late and missing assignments will be graded accordingly.

eLearning Guidelines

Daily and Weekly Schedules	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consistent• Similar to in-person schedule
Grading	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regular grades will be given• Ample opportunity for formative practice with no more than 50% from summative
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formative assessment will be given
Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• K-5 will be taken daily• 6-8 will be taken daily and for each class
Learning Platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Google

Acknowledgement of eLearning Expectations

The current COVID pandemic presents challenges that Aspen View Academy will meet, in part, by offering eLearning for parents who choose to do so. The expectations for eLearning are as follows:

___ I understand that my student is committed to eLearning until Fall Break.

___ I understand that the rigor, expectations, and volume of work for eLearning are similar to in-person learning.

___ I understand that the daily schedule and attendance expectations are similar to in-person learning and I will contact the school when my student is unable to participate in eLearning live sessions.

___ I understand that grading expectations for eLearning, like in-person learning will follow AVA policy as well as grade level procedures to include missing and late assignments.

___ I understand that eLearners will be expected to display behavior that is consistent with AVA policies and procedures when participating in live sessions; inappropriate behavior will be addressed per the discipline policy.

___ I understand that some level of parent support will be required for eLearners; the level of support required depends on the student's age and independence, ability to use the necessary technical equipment and software, and ability to follow the schedule and complete assignments independently, among other factors.

___ I understand that I may be required to pick up materials from Aspen View Academy or sign up for student testing during non-school hours (including weekends) to facilitate necessary testing, learning, and data driven instruction.

___ I understand that eLearning requires ready access to the Internet and an AVA one to one device that has a working microphone and camera and will follow all eLearning technology requirements.

___ I understand that Aspen View Academy's Information Technology Department will be available during regular school days from 8:00am – 3:00pm to answer technical questions. Email is the preferred communication method.

___ I understand that the eLearning option is temporary and that once federal and state restrictions related to the pandemic are lifted, my student will return to in-person learning.

___ I understand that eLearners are encouraged to wear an AVA approved dress code shirt and adhere to the AVA dress of choice guidelines for the rest of their attire.

___ I understand that eLearners should have a distraction free environment for synchronous learning.

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Whether remotely or in school, educating your child is a team effort. Please acknowledge that you have read and understand the expectations above. If you have questions, please reach out to your child's assistant principal.

AVA Instruction and Recovery

- In response to the public health threat of COVID-19, the Douglas County School District (DCSD) and Aspen View Academy transitioned to a virtual setting so our students could remain engaged in learning via remote methods, while our school was closed. The goal of the eLearning Plan was to keep students engaged so they can learn and grow, while also affording them with meaningful opportunities for connection and community.
- AVA is committed to keeping our students, families, and staff connected to the AVA community during this challenging time by providing each student with equitable access to in-person eLearning options ensuring our students have continued access to mental health resources and providing best practices and resources to our educators.

Assessment and Recovery

The US Department of Education granted Colorado the authority to waive federal assessment and accountability requirements for Spring 220 due to COVID-19.

Research suggests that no reallocating solution will make-up for the COVID slide or summer slide. As a result, AVA's focus this fall will be determining the knowledge and skills of students using both interim benchmark assessments (iReady), formative practice from the classroom and targeted instruction and/or intervention.

Assessment and Recovery

Aspen View Academy will administer iReady to all K-8 students for math and reading. This assessment, which is based on Colorado Academic Standards, will help teachers and staff identify students' individual strengths and areas of need in math and reading.

AVA's tentative testing window is:

- Beginning of Year Benchmark: August 26 – September 4
- Middle of Year Benchmark: December 1- 17
- End of Year Benchmark: April 26 – May 7

Health, Safety, and Distancing Measures

Grades PreK-4	Grades 5-8
Per Executive Order D – Not Required based on students being 10 years old or younger	Per Executive Order – Required based on students being 11 years old or older
Masks/shields are highly encouraged	Masks/shields are required
Exceptions may be made through the school nurse for students with a medical concern or disability concern	Exceptions may be made through the school nurse for students with a medical concern or disability concern
<p>Students may be required to wear masks/shields when in transition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To and from class Arrival to school Dismissal from school In the hallways While working in small groups or in other circumstances where social distancing is not possible Visiting the health room or the office Other situations that are deemed appropriate <p>Masks are not required, but highly encouraged while in the classroom</p>	<p>Students will wear masks/shields when in transition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To and from class Arrival to school Dismissal from school In the hallways While working in small groups or in other circumstances where social distancing is not possible Visiting the health room or the office <p>Masks are required while in the classroom</p>
Brief mask/shield breaks will occur in the classrooms with the teacher throughout the day	Brief mask/shield breaks will occur in the classrooms with the teacher throughout the day
<p>No mask/shield during:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE Lunch Recess 	<p>No mask/shield during:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PE Lunch Recess
<p>Per Executive Order D – staff is required to wear masks/shields with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> While eating While outdoors While socially distanced Have health condition that prohibits wearing a face covering Alone in their classroom, office, or educational space 	<p>Per Executive Order D – staff is required to wear masks/shields with the following exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> While eating While outdoors While socially distanced Have health condition that prohibits wearing a face covering Alone in their classroom, office, or educational space

Face Coverings

- Students in middle school in grades 5-8 are required to wear face coverings during the school day ([Executive Order D 2020 138](#)). Exceptions may be made through the school nurse for students with a medical concern or disability concerns.
- Students in grades K-4 will be strongly encouraged to use face coverings or face shields throughout the school day.
- Face coverings for students should be clearly labeled with the student name, washed daily, and, for at least K-5, attached to the student in some way (i.e. gator-style or a mask attached to a break-away lanyard). Face shields should be clearly labeled with the student name and sanitized washed daily.
- Face coverings can be any color, pattern, or style, as long as they are school appropriate and not a distraction in the classroom.
- AVA will have face coverings available for staff and students.

Health, Safety, and Distancing Measures (cont.)

Student traffic flow during the school day:

- Students on the second floor (grades K-4) will use the middle stairwells
- Students on the third floor (grades 5-8) will use the stairs that lead up from the lobby.

Lunch:

- DCSD plans on providing a grab and go lunch for students
- One grade at a time will eat in the lunchroom
- Cohort groups will be assigned to the same group of tables
- We will limit the number of students per table
- Staff will disinfect tables between each lunch group
- An outside eating area has been created
- The harvest bar and ice cream freezer have been removed

Recess:

- There will be separate, designated areas outside for students
- There will be one staff member supervising in each of the areas
- Students from one homeroom will spend recess in one of the designated areas
- Homerooms will rotate through the areas on a specified rotation
- Students will NOT be allowed to go to Parrish Park

Field Trips:

- No field trips

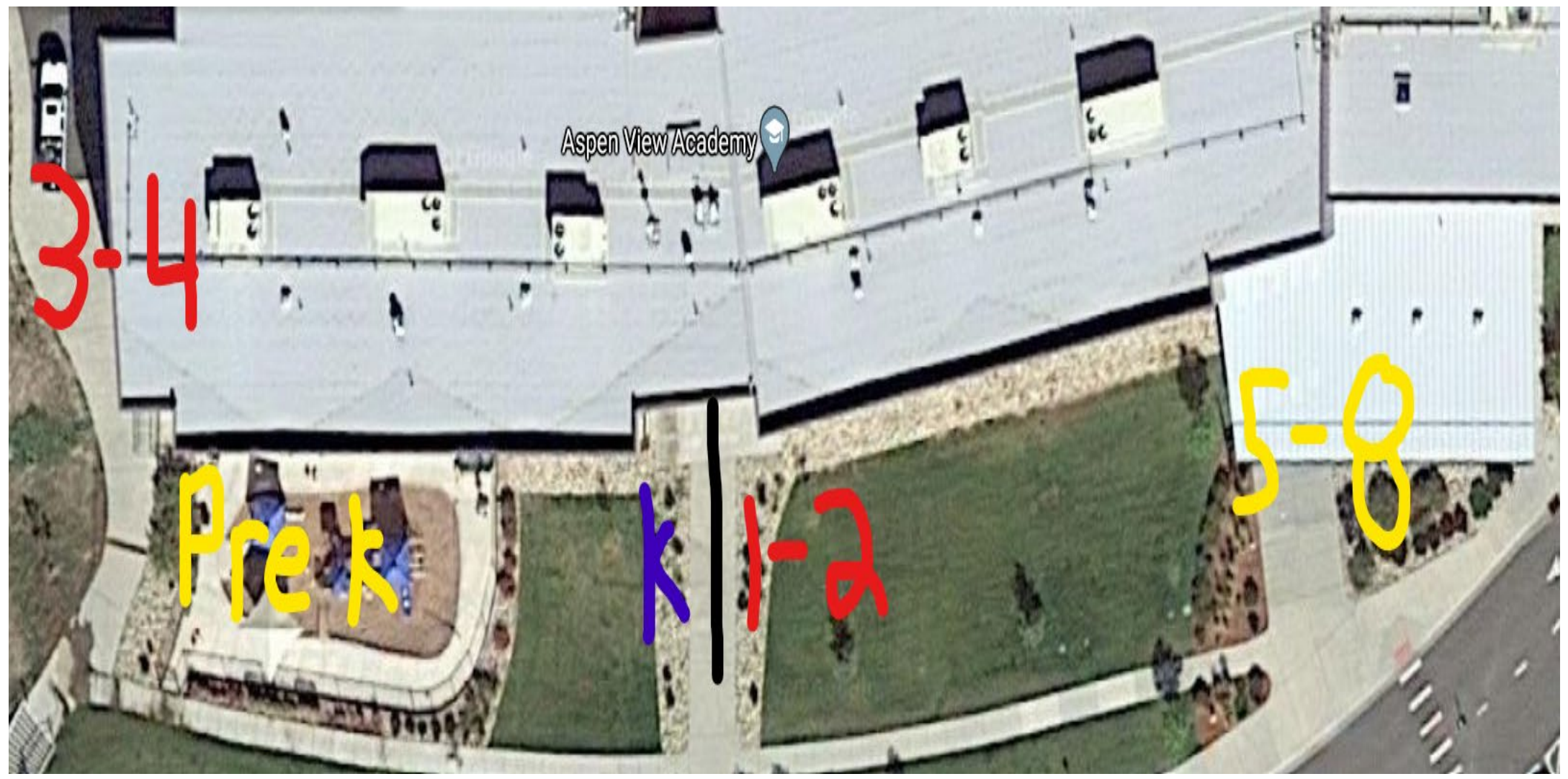
Aspen View Academy

3-4

Pre k

k | 1-2

5-8



Health, Safety, and Distancing Measures (cont.)

Hallways/Lockers/Restrooms:

- Cohorts will be distanced from other cohorts when it is necessary to travel
- Lockers will be separated by cohort or not used at all
- Restrooms will be sanitized frequently
- **We are replacing all traditional water fountains to bottle fill stations**

Visitors and Volunteers:

- Generally, visitors and volunteers will not be allowed in the building (beyond the lobby) to limit exposure
- Prescheduled parent meetings are allowed, provided the meeting is limited to the conference room, or other designated space
- All visitors with appointments may be required to undergo a temperature and symptom check before entering
- AVA will temporarily suspend WATCH DOGS

Other Considerations:

- Waiting for guidance on emergency drills/lightning dismissal
- Waiting on guidance for after school activities (will likely depend on cohort requirements)
- Signage to reinforce distancing
- Additional supplies: disinfectant, soap, hand sanitizer, masks available, touchless thermometers

Health, Safety, and Distancing Measures (cont.)

Nursing Support:

- AVA's nurse will consult frequently with our health assistant as well as follow established guidelines from DCSD, CDE, and Tri-County Health

Sick Students and Staff:

- Screening: All parents are asked to check for COVID-19 symptoms before dropping their child off to school.
- - Fever of 100.4 or higher
- - Cough, chest tightness, difficulty breathing
- - Loss of taste or smell
- - Vomiting
- - Diarrhea
- - Sore throat
- - Muscle or body aches
- - Fatigue

Temperature Checks

- If required, temperature checks will occur in the homeroom class
 - More efficient
 - Prevents a crowd of people entering the building
 - More private for students

Health, Safety, and Distancing Measures (cont.)

- Students with suspected symptoms will be quarantined in a designated space until parent comes to pick up
- Staff with suspected symptoms will be sent home or asked to stay home

Case Coordination and Communication:

- Tri-County Health makes all decisions with respect to contact tracing and determining who needs to be quarantined.
- Should a member of our school community (student or staff) test positive for COVID-19, our school nurses will work with Tri-County Health and follow their directions.
- The school will provide transparent communication regarding positive cases of COVID-19 to the extent allowed by the health department and privacy laws.

Cleaning and Hygiene:

- AVA facilities staff will provide additional regular cleaning throughout the day in high-touch areas (e.g., restrooms, lobby, and playground equipment)
- Additional hand-sanitizing stations throughout the building

HVAC

- AVA has 11 RTUs (Roof Top Units)
 - 6 main building
 - 1 cafeteria
 - 1 gymnasium
 - 3 music building
- AVA is installing 11 Needlepoint bipolar ionization (NBPI) systems into our existing HVAC units.
 1. Pathogen Killing – including COVID-19
 2. Odor reduction
 3. Allergy reduction
 4. Energy Savings

HVAC

- The addition of the NBPI system will capture about 90% of pathogen contamination. Currently with a filter only system (MERV 8 filters) we capture 11% of pathogens.
- Air change occurs, on average, 7 times per hour per area for each RTU.
- by applying certain air quality technologies the Federal Government's test recent results are now showing a 99.4% deactivation rate of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) within 30 minutes.

Funding and Financials

- AVA did apply for a PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) loan and was approved for \$1,000,006
- DCSD is very fair and works with us thoughtfully in every respect, as a charter school we do have unique financial challenges that are unlike those of other district schools. The PPP financing was made available to us by virtue of the rules established by Congress when it passed the underlying legislation. This funding provided Aspen View Academy the ability to continue to employ hourly employees and to provide security for those who otherwise would have been forced to furlough or take pay cuts. We are grateful that our government provided this option to maintain continuity and stability for our teachers and staff so that they may remain focused upon serving students in a very difficult time.”
- Accordingly, we did apply for and receive funding under the program in accordance with the rules established by Congress. The amount we received was \$1,000,006. We will use the funds in strict compliance with the official guidance as follows:
- Proceeds from a PPP loan may be used for limited purposes: payroll costs, costs related to the continuation of healthcare benefits and insurance premiums, employee salaries and commissions, interest on mortgage obligations, rent and utility payments, interest on debt incurred before February 15, 2020, and refinancing an SBA EIDL loan made between January 31, 2020 and April 3, 2020. Additional guidance further makes clear that no more than 40% of the proceeds may be used towards the foregoing non-payroll costs.

Funding and Financials

- CARES ACT - The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (**CARES**) Act
- The general accepted use of these funds is as follows:
- Cleaning and sanitizing supplies intended to limit transmission of COVID-19
- Mask, gloves, thermometers (limit requests to those within TCH guidelines, i.e. medical gowns will only be purchased if recommended by TCH)
- Reconfiguration of school building (keep requests within reasonable limits, plexiglass between each desk will not be considered under the current guidelines).
- Software subscriptions - Most of these will be managed through ITS and any costs can only be paid for 6 months through these funds. Any remaining months would need to be paid through SBB.
- Other technology needs to support online learning which could include headsets, hotspots, etc. Purchase will be coordinated with ITS.
- Some personnel needs which could include additional teachers, or EAs. Note that there are many stipulations on the grant for this funding. The staff would have to be substantially dedicated to COVID-19 response meaning 51% of their time in a pay period. Some additional pay and stipends might be considered for existing staff not meeting this requirement.

Funding and Financials

- AVA use of Cares Act Money:
 - Conversion of water fountains to bottle fill stations
 - Creation of outside area for small group lunch
 - PPE – scan thermometers, face coverings, sanitizer, sanitizing machines
 - Health Room remodel
 - Technology to facilitate eLearning
 - Creation of expanded playground area to help with social distancing

Finally....

Please be patient and flexible as plans can change at a moments notice based on new guidelines/mandates from the Governor, CDE, Tri-County Health or other regulatory agencies.