



# FURLOW CHARTER SCHOOL

August 13, 2021

Dear Furlow Families,

Our Governing Board voted to approve a Phased Plan for School Operations, which we will begin following immediately. I am attaching a copy of the plan and it will be available on our school website. Please note that this plan will take the place of the Community Spread Calculation Plan and the School Spread Calculation Plan sections of our Return to School and Pandemic Plan for this school year.

The Phased Plan will use COVID-19-related absences from our schools - Elementary and Middle/High - to determine when we should increase mitigation measures and when to close each school category for distance learning. We will continue to use the community spread 14-Day Case Rate to determine masking mandates. That data is available on the Department of Public Health's website. Because our data regarding absences is changing throughout the day based on COVID test results and parent communication with the school, we will have a deadline of 12:00 PM for determining the calculation for phases and mitigation measures. Whatever data is available at that time will be used. We will notify families the day we need to move from one phase to the next using our automated messaging system and through paper notification, which will be sent home with scholars.

The ultimate goal of this plan is to keep our school open for face-to-face instruction as much as possible while keeping our scholars and employees safe and healthy. Thank you for your support as we begin communicating the phases to each category today.

Based on today's data:

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - 4.11% COVID-19-RELATED ABSENCES - PHASE 3**

**MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL - 1.06% COVID-19-RELATED ABSENCES - PHASE 2**

**COMMUNITY SPREAD 14-DAY CASE RATE - 425 - MASKS ARE MANDATORY FOR ALL SCHOOLS**

On another note, the Americus Police Department has requested that we begin a new traffic pattern for flowing through the neighborhood during drop off and pick up periods. The traffic pattern will begin Monday morning, August 16, 2021. The traffic entering the neighborhood will be one-way 7:30-8:15 AM, and is required to enter Columbia Avenue. Traffic leaving the neighborhood will be one-way, and is required to exit by turning right on Rose Avenue. The pattern will be the same for afternoon traffic, which will be 3:00-3:45 PM. The new traffic pattern is provided on the back of this letter.

Please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions. Thank you for helping us #keepfurlowopen!

For the Falcons,

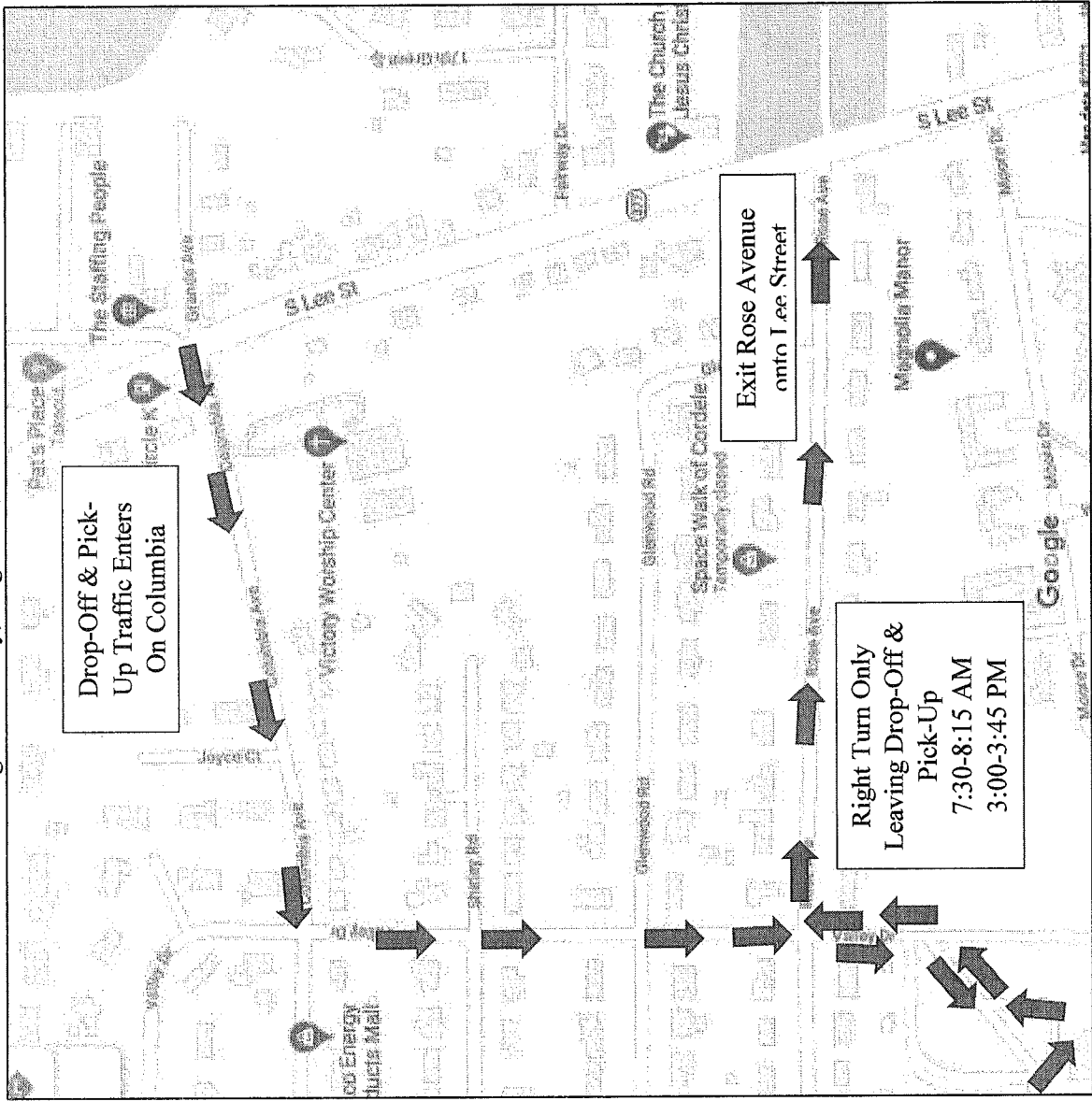
*Lezley B. Anderson*

Dr. Lezley B. Anderson

Executive Director

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**Traffic Pattern for Drop-Off and Pick-Up at Furlow Charter School**  
Begins Monday, August 16, 2021 at 7:30 AM





**Phased Plan for School Operations (Elementary School and Middle/High School)**

Phase	Safety/Mitigation Protocols	Model
Phase 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This phase is for COVID-19-free environments</li> <li>● No additional protocols required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In-person only</li> </ul>
Phase 2	<p>This is the current phase as of August 6, 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Masks recommended (requirement may have to be made based on community spread levels for limited mitigation periods - SEE BELOW)</li> <li>● Water fountains disabled</li> <li>● Hand sanitizer in all classrooms</li> <li>● Classroom fogging/disinfection after school</li> <li>● Disinfectant in every classroom</li> <li>● Personal protective equipment available for all staff</li> <li>● Temperature taken for all visitors</li> <li>● Breakfast in classrooms</li> <li>● Multiple arrival drop off points/dismissal pick up points</li> <li>● Drills conducted at staggered times through individual classes to allow for distancing</li> <li>● Allow lunch visits in Peace Garden only, not cafeteria for outside visitors</li> <li>● Requirement may have to be made to limit lunch to classrooms except for K and 1st grade for limited mitigation periods based on community and/or school spread levels - SEE BELOW</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In-person</li> <li>● Remote learning program for approved scholars</li> <li>● Google classroom for quarantined and isolated scholars</li> </ul>
Phase 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Masks required for all scholars and employees</li> <li>● Water fountains disabled</li> <li>● Hand sanitizer in all classrooms</li> <li>● Classroom fogging/disinfection after school</li> <li>● Disinfectant in every classroom</li> <li>● Personal protective equipment available for all staff</li> <li>● Breakfast in classrooms</li> <li>● Multiple arrival drop off points/dismissal pick up points</li> <li>● Drills conducted at staggered times through individual classes to allow for distancing</li> <li>● Lunch in classrooms except for K and 1st grade</li> <li>● Middle, high and bridges classrooms disinfected between classes</li> <li>● Visitors limited to the office area and must be masked</li> <li>● Cohorting of scholars in classrooms with physical distancing between cohorts where possible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In-person with cohorts where possible</li> <li>● Remote learning program for approved scholars</li> <li>● Google classroom for quarantined and isolated scholars</li> </ul>

Phase 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Closed to public (non-school employees)</li> <li>● Remote learning program for approved scholars</li> <li>● Google classroom for distance learners</li> <li>● Furlow Family Care for employees' personal children</li> </ul>
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**Calculation for Movement Between Phases**

Movement to Phase 2 is triggered by a current Executive Order from the Governor declaring a Public Health State of Emergency in Georgia due to the impact of Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and/or a current Administrative Order from the Commissioner and State Health Officer of the Georgia Department of Public Health for Public Health Control Measures due to the impact of COVID-19. When those are lifted, Phase 2 will move back down to Phase 1. Movement between phases 2-4 will be determined based on the number of COVID-19-related absences of scholars at each school category: Elementary and Middle/High, based on isolation and quarantine as determined by the Return to School and Pandemic Plan/DPH requirements. The total number of isolation cases per school category will be added to the total number of quarantine cases (.5 value) per school category and divided by the total number of scholars enrolled per school category. When that number exceeds 4% with COVID-19-related absences, we move to Phase 3. Should the number of COVID-19-related absences reach 8%, we will move to Phase 4. Movement from phase 3 back down to phase 2 will occur when the COVID-19-related absences have reduced below the entrance threshold of that phase. Movement from phase 4 back down to phase 3 will occur when the COVID-19-related absences have reduced below 7.5% and at least one week has passed since the phase was entered. Faculty and staff absenteeism due to COVID-19 will continue to be an overriding factor regardless of the percentages of student cases. Parents will continue to be notified with as much advance notice possible of any need to close the school for short-term distance learning.

**Parent Communication of Phase Movement**

Phase changes would be initiated one school day following the date the threshold is reached based on the attendance at noon each school day. Families will be notified that day through automated messenger and paper notification will be sent home with scholars.

**Limited Mitigation Periods - Phase 2**

Threshold of COVID-19-Related Absences	Mitigation Protocol	Mitigation Period
<i>The number of COVID-19-related absences reaches 2%*</i>	Exercise the non-congregate meal waiver and eat lunches in classrooms except for K and 1st grade classes.	One week, Monday through Friday, based on the number of COVID-19-related absences* each Friday at noon. While increased mitigation protocols can be instituted based on increased percentage of COVID-19-related absences throughout the week, no decreases in protocols will be initiated until a period of one week has passed.
<i>Community Spread 14-Day Case Rate <math>\geq</math> 250/100K</i>	Require masks to be worn by all scholars and employees.	Until the Community Spread 14-Day Case Rate is $<$ 250/100K.

\*See method of calculation above.