



## **Ready for Learning Parent Information**

**Please understand the following are being put in place for the safety of our students, staff, and community. Covid-19 is a serious threat to student safety therefore the following and likely more protections may be put in place to limit exposure to this virus. We are taking this seriously and ask that you do too!**

- Students who choose online options may be allowed to participate in extracurriculars (sports, Beta, FBLA, etc) but these activities may be in different forms.
- Students who choose online option may be allowed to participate with their class (homecoming, prom, etc) depending on restrictions at the time
- All students K-12th grade will always be required to wear a mask while on the bus.
- Every student 4th-12th grade will be required to have a mask while on campus. Masks will be worn when 6 feet of social distancing cannot be assured. That could mean the full school day.
- Students 4th-12th grade will be required to wear their masks while in transition, and/or when six feet distance is not possible.
- Students will be expected to wear masks in all areas where social distancing cannot be achieved
- In the mornings, students will go directly to their first period class. Students will NOT gather in the lobby or cafeteria.
- Student lunch times will be staggered and seating with 6 feet distance between students when possible.
- Doors will open at 7:30 in the mornings. Students will be dismissed at 2:30
- Student transitions will be limited and staggered. Teachers may move from room to room to help minimize student movement.
- School travel to and from ANC may be limited with the possibility of online options.
- Parent contact information must be updated and accurate.
- Parents will not be allowed to eat lunch with students. Parents can drop items off for students in the school office. Please make sure to label the student name on the lunch.
- Microwaves will not be available for students
- An advisory period will be scheduled for teachers to assist on-line students.
- Changes to drop off procedures in the morning - parents must wait for the student to be screened. No pull up-kick out-drop off open several entrances to the school for faster screenings
- Changes to bus routes - more bus routes and/or more runs on the existing routes. Earlier pick-up times. Aides will ride the bus when possible. Students will be screening before getting on the bus.

### Virtual Options:

- Online orientation and instruction dates will be announced as well as pick up dates for electronic devices.

Armored Public Schools will follow the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) guidelines and the Arkansas Ready for Learning report issued by the Department of Education in planning for re-opening in the fall. We hope the following information helps answer many questions you may have.

Option 1 (On-site)	Option 2 (AVA)
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Full On-Site/ Face to Face Instruction (Full 9 Weeks Commitment)</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Virtual/Remote Learning Armored Virtual Academy (AVA) (Full 9 Weeks Commitment)</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Armored School District Goal: Student day to be as normal as possible while we provide as much safety as possible.</li> <li>● School will begin on August 24, 2020 as originally planned. The date will only change if ADH sends updated guidance.</li> <li>● On-site student instructional hours will be daily from 7:45-2:30.</li> <li>● Students will be required to wear facemasks in accordance with current CDC and ADH guidelines.</li> <li>● Bus transportation will be provided but face coverings will be strictly enforced.</li> <li>● Social distancing will be observed as much as feasibly possible but at times students will be closer than the recommended distance. When social distancing requirements cannot be maintained such as class exchange time, smaller classrooms, etc., students will be expected to wear face coverings. Classrooms and cafeteria spaces will be configured to provide as much space between students as possible.</li> <li>● In the event an individual tests positive, we will follow the latest guidance from the ADH. We will be in direct contact with ADH. Students may be required to stay home and self-quarantine due to suspected exposure to Covid-19.</li> <li>● Students and adults will have their temperature taken regularly, at a minimum once per day. Any student or adult who has an elevated temperature will not be allowed to board the bus or enter the school building. Parents should have a contingency plan in place for those circumstances. We ask that you monitor signs of sickness such as cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell closely.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Courses offered in partnership with Arkansas Public School Resource Center (APSRC) and on-line providers which include Lincoln Learning, Virtual Arkansas, and IllustrativeMath/IXL.</li> <li>● Students in grades K-12 enrolled full-time in the AVA must complete ALL courses off-campus</li> <li>● Students complete work at home, online, under the direction of a highly qualified, licensed teacher employed by either ASD or ASD partners.</li> <li>● Students will be required to communicate with the teacher in a timely manner if they are having difficulty.</li> <li>● ASD will provide student with electronic device.</li> <li>● Students must provide or have access to internet (school will not provide internet service)</li> <li>● Students may make an appointment to utilize on-campus resources (library, printer, etc.)</li> <li>● Parents may view student grades and assignment due dates in the eSchool Home Access Center (HAC). Grades are based on quality of work, mastery of skill/learning goals, and completion by assigned due date.</li> <li>● Attendance for the full-time, virtual student is based on deadline of and completion of assignments. ASD staff will make sure every effort to ensure all students make appropriate progress towards successful completion. Students who fall significantly behind due to lack of activity may be recommended for removal from AVA and be required to take courses on-site, enroll in credit recovery courses, or receive no credit for the course nor potentially promotion to the next grade level.</li> </ul>



## Armored Public Schools FAQs Regarding COVID-19 Guidelines

### 1. What is the first day of school for students?

School will begin on Monday, August 24, 2020.

### 2. Can you guarantee students and staff will not become ill?

No. While the well-being of our students, staff, and families is of utmost importance, we cannot guarantee no one will get sick. Every risk cannot be mitigated, but we will do all we can to ensure everyone's safety.

### 3. What are the requirements for face coverings?

All students riding the bus **will be required** to wear a mask. Students in grades 4th - 12th **will be required** to wear a face covering during the school day when social distancing cannot be achieved in accordance with CDC and ADH guidelines.

### 4. Will face coverings be provided for students?

It is expected that parents provide masks for their students. (We suggest an extra mask stored in a ziplock bag.)

### 5. Will bus transportation be provided?

Yes, the district will provide bus transportation for students. Students will have their temperature checked when boarding the bus, and if an elevated temp is detected, the student will not be transported. Please have a plan in place in case your student is unable to board the bus. Students will be required to wear a face covering at all times while on the bus. If there are any changes to bus schedules, stops, or routes, information will be communicated to parents.

### 6. What will the school day look like for my child?

Administrators are working diligently to create schedules that include minimizing close physical interactions. Our goal is to maintain as normal of a day as possible while mitigating risk. It is important to note that social interaction and congregation will be limited in an effort to mitigate risk.

### 7. How will students socially distance in the classroom?

Classrooms will be arranged to maximize spacing between students and teachers to the extent possible. We will make every effort to conform to social distancing guidelines.

### 8. Where will my student eat lunch?

Based on current ADH guidelines regarding limited capacities in cafeterias, we are working on adjusting lunch schedules and possibly using alternative areas if necessary. Other measures will include proper sanitation of all areas after every meal service. It is important to note

### **9. Will microwaves be available**

No. Microwaves have been removed from the cafeteria and high school commons. This should be considered when choosing lunches for students to bring from home.

### **10. Will my student still be able to have recess or play on the playground?**

Yes. Elementary students will have outdoor play time with restrictions that limit the number of students they come in contact with. Additionally, playground equipment will be sanitized between groups of student.

### **11. Will students still have extra classes like P.E., art, music, and library?**

Yes, students will still have the opportunity to participate in activity classes.

### **12. Will water fountains be available?**

No. Water fountains will not be available for normal use. Students are encouraged to bring filled water bottles from home. Refilling stations will be available.

### **13. Can I still send money with my child to school to pay for lunch and any fees?**

We highly encourage parents to use online payment systems including [EZSchoolPay](#) or write a check.

### **14. Can I visit the school, classroom, or eat lunch with my student?**

Under current ADH guidance, visitors will not be allowed in the school except for the office. Parents will not be allowed to eat with their child. Visits to the school will be limited to essential activity.

### **15. Will extracurricular activities and sports be offered in the fall?**

Yes. Many student athletes have currently returned to campus to begin practice based on ADH and Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) guidance. We anticipate there will be sports activities in the fall with possible modifications required by ADH and AAA.

### **16. Are we going to have the normal clubs this school year?**

Yes. Students who choose online options may be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities School Clubs and activities will occur under guidelines from ADE and ADH.

### **17. Will students choosing online be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities?**

Yes. Students who choose Armored Virtual Academy (AVA) options may be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities (sports, Beta, FBLA, etc). Extracurricular activities will occur under guidelines from ADE and ADH.

### **18. What precautions will be taken for cleaning and sanitizing?**

Disinfecting, sanitation, and cleanliness continue to be a high priority on all our campuses. Extra attention will be given on high touch surface areas. Restrooms will also be continuously cleaned throughout the day. Students will be expected to wash or sanitize their hands throughout the day.

### **19. Will students and adults be screened daily?**

Yes. Students and staff members will be screened at least once per day.

### **20. What happens if a student comes to school sick?**

The student will be screened by the school nurse. If the student has a temperature over the ADH guidance, they will be sent home and will need to be fever free for 48 hours without

medication before returning to school. The student will be required to check in again with the school nurse upon returning to school.

**21. What happens if an individual tests positive for COVID-19?**

The district will be in close contact with ADH directly and follow ADH's guidance.

**22. Can I walk my child into the school?**

No. Parents and guardians of students in grades K-12 may not walk them into the school. An exception will be made for Kindergarten and Pre-K students on the first day of school. Those parents will be allowed to walk their student to the classroom door, provided the parent wears a mask and passes screening. Pre-K parents will escort their child daily to the school entrance beginning on the second day of school to sign their child in.

**23. What about students who have special needs or students with compromised immune systems and pre-existing conditions?**

The district will be prepared to accommodate students with special needs through both onsite and remote instruction. Our Special Education instructors will be taking extra precautions when working with students. If parents have concerns about their students who may be at high-risk for COVID-19, they may be interested in exploring our digital option which allows the students to continue their education from the safety of their home.

**24. How will you help fill any gaps in learning for my student from the previous year?**

The district curriculum team, along with classroom teachers and administrators are continuing to work in order to revise district curricula so that missed essential standards and skills will be addressed when students return.

**25. What happens if schools are mandated to close again?**

In the event of a school closure, or if a student becomes ill, students will be able to easily pivot or transition to online learning at home. Blended learning will become part of our new normal.

**26. If I do not want my student to return to school in this traditional format, what are my options?**

The student will be able to enroll in the Armored Virtual Academy online option.

**27. When will parents be able to apply for the Armored Virtual Academy?**

Parents will be able to enroll in Armored Virtual Academy during registration, on or before July 31. Applications for the AVA will be made available at registration.

**28. Can I change my decision about digital learning?**

Students will only be allowed to change from digital learning to on-campus classes at the end of a nine-week grading period. Should a student not be making suitable progress online, the district reserves the right to recommend that the student transition from online to on-campus either immediately or at the end of the current quarter.

**29. Will there be an open house, will we be able to meet the teacher, or see the classroom?**

We will have a modified open house. Parents and students may visit their classroom and school facilities upon registration.

**30. When and how will students be receiving their schedules and learning where classrooms are located?**

Elementary will be July 27th-30th  
High School is scheduled for July 14-16

**31. If choosing AVA, when will my child be able to pick up their Chromebook/Macbook?**

Online orientation and instruction dates will be announced as well as pick up dates for electronic devices.

**32. Will kids be allowed to play together or have to stay 6 feet apart?**

We will do our best to encourage the six-foot rule for kids, but we all realize that we must be reasonable in how we work through those types of issues. However, we expect older students to be able to maintain distance on their own. We want school to be a safe and caring place and have to be careful about making it too “institutionalized.”

**33. What if a student wants to play sports, or participate in other extracurricular activities but enroll in the Armored Virtual Academy, is that possible?**

Yes. Students who choose an online option will be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities.

**34. Can students in the Armored Virtual Academy still go to prom, homecoming, and graduation?**

Students who choose an online option may be allowed to participate with their class (homecoming, prom, etc) depending on restrictions at the time.

**35. Will it be possible for my child to attend school part of the day and do the rest of their curriculum online?**

No. The student will be required to choose either the online or on-campus option. They will not be allowed to mix.

**36. Will attendance still be taken regardless of in-class or virtual instruction?**

Yes, attendance will be required and taken regardless of the learning environment.

**37. Will the semester attendance policy still be in effect for semester test exemption?**

Semester Exemptions will be determined by individual course needs.

**38. If my student enrolls in AVA, will they have different teachers for each core curriculum, or will they have only one teacher?**

Elementary students will be instructed by Armored School staff. High school students will potentially be a mix of Armored School staff and licensed teachers from other providers.

**39. Will those enrolling in the AVA be able to take Pre-AP and AP courses?**

Yes, AVA students will be able to take Pre-AP and AP courses.

**40. If we are in the AVA, will my student be able to have her picture taken and be in a yearbook?**

Yes, our AVA students are part of our district. As such, we will have a plan for ensuring they get their pictures taken and be represented in a yearbook.