



Livonia Public Schools

Elementary & District Programs

Date: April 9, 2021

To: Andrea Oquist, Superintendent

From: William Green, Director of Elementary Programs & District Services

Re: Livonia Virtual Elementary Planning Update for the 2021-2022 school year

The purpose of this memo is to update the Livonia Public Schools' Board of Education on planning for Livonia Virtual (LV) for the upcoming school year at the elementary level. Plans will be reviewed with the Board of Education during the April 19, 2021 Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting. As reviewed at the COW meeting on March 15, 2021, our recommendation would be to offer Livonia Virtual for the 2021-2022 school year where the educational experience for our LV students can closely reflect our in-person LPS educational experience. The primary reasons to offer LV for the upcoming school year are:

- To acknowledge the ongoing pandemic may present a need to provide a flexible learning option for a portion of our community
- To analyze the effectiveness and sustainability of developing a long-term Livonia Virtual option. In other words, to determine if this would be an educational selection option moving forward past next school year

Below are general highlights of our plans moving forward. I will be presenting a slideshow at the COW meeting to review various key documents in our planning.

2020-2021 LIVONIA VIRTUAL NOTES

- 28% of elementary students are currently enrolled in Livonia Virtual. Based on feedback from LV staff and other qualitative analysis, a large percentage of families in LV chose this option due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- 67 teachers are currently teaching Livonia Virtual students, which does not include Webster ACAT and Center Based classrooms.

2021-2022 LIVONIA VIRTUAL PLANNING

- During the months of February, March and April teams have been planning for the design of Livonia Virtual 2021-22. We have developed a timeline moving forward to prepare for Livonia Virtual 21-22 at the elementary level. We have a playbook from this year to build upon, which has been helpful in our planning meetings.
- April 20-April 25: Formalize and communicate the LV Plan for 2021-22 to the LPS Community after the presentation to the Board of Education on April 19.
- Additional planning will take place during the upcoming months to finalize additional topics.

LIVONIA VIRTUAL ELECTION PROCESS

- April 26-May 7: Election Process for Livonia Virtual window.
- It is assumed all elementary students will be enrolled for in-person instruction for 21-22 unless the Livonia Virtual application is completed for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Election for Livonia Virtual for the 2021-2022 school year doesn't guarantee a spot in Livonia Virtual.
 - Ratios will be developed for the number of enrollments at each grade level. After completion of the election window, if necessary, a lottery will take place to order the slots for Livonia Virtual openings with the remaining slots being placed on an ordered waitlist.
 - All waitlisted students will be enrolled for in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year.
- There will be a window in the summer of 2021 for families to make a change to their election process and allow new registrations to make an LV selection.

MAGNET PROGRAMS

- Like our secondary LV programming, our magnet programs would not be an option moving forward for the 2021-2022 school year. ACAT at Webster and Niji-Iro programs were designed for in-person experiences and the remote world can not properly address the unique learning environment in both programs.

LV TRANSFER PROCESS

- Opportunities to transfer into and out of Livonia Virtual would not be available once the school year begins. This is a yearlong commitment. Research does not support movement between schools and programs except in rare cases that are handled on a case by case basis.

LIVONIA VIRTUAL PLANNING GROUPS

Parent and Student Compact

- The purpose of the Compact group is to develop guiding principles of the LV experience so that during the election window families understand the requirements, expectations, and characteristics of a successful Livonia Virtual experience.

2021-22 Schedule

- The purpose of the schedule planning group is to collect feedback from LV staff, families, and where applicable students to assist in development of a reasonable live (synchronous) and asynchronous remote learning schedule.

2021-22 Specials

- The purpose of the Specials area planning group is to analyze how to deliver special area (Art, Music, Physical Education, Library Media) classes to LV students.

Communications

- The purpose of the communications planning group is to advertise and communicate our LV options for the 2021-2022 school year. This includes but is not limited to a FAQ document, an LV website for families, and communications from the district and school level regarding all things LV for 2021-2022 school years.

Again, we look forward to offering Livonia Virtual for the 2021-2022 school year to address the needs for some families to make this election due to the ongoing Pandemic. It must be restated that additional analysis of the effectiveness and long-term sustainability of Livonia Virtual will be studied during the 2021-2022 school year to determine its long-term viability in a post COVID world.

I look forward to providing regular and on-going updates to the Board of Education on our preparation and planning of Livonia Virtual for the 2021-2022 school year.

WG