

SLCSE Strategies for Fall 2020

School-Specific Updates

School will start on September 8 remotely

SLCSE teachers return to work on August 17 (although many of them have worked on school projects throughout the summer!) and will engage in a week of professional development. We will not be available from August 17 - 20 to help families but you can expect to hear from us beginning on August 24. We will have information about meeting teachers, accessing class schedules, setting up appointments for assessments, picking up digital devices (please request one if you need one), and receiving other learning materials.

SLCSE Academy Class

We are excited to teach a new class at SLCSE this year that we believe will help all students navigate school with confidence and success.

SLCSE Academy is a place to build relationships with a small group of students and their families; a place to build skills necessary to survive and thrive in a pandemic; and our hub for disseminating helpful information.

Your student will be assigned a SLCSE Academy teacher who will serve as your main point of contact with the school. We know that this new learning paradigm presents new challenges for all of us and communication between the school, family and student will be key. We want you to feel supported as we work together this year.

SLCSE Academy will hold two live classes each week that your student will attend. Students will earn Elective credit towards their graduation requirements for attending and participating in this class. During class, teachers will

- Mentor and encourage students
- Coach students on how to use Canvas and other technology effectively
- Monitored student's wellbeing
- Organize social activities

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Frequently Asked Questions

Please keep in mind that we are trying to remain as flexible as possible without compromising safety or learning. Therefore, **answers to these questions may change**. We will do our best to keep you informed of changes that we make.

Q What will a typical school day look like when we are in remote learning?

A Students will have six classes in their schedule and they will attend virtual classes much like they would move from classroom to classroom in a physical building. To avoid having students sit in front of a computer for the entire day, we have split the day into two sections. One half of the day students will attend three of their classes with their teachers and classmates. The other half of the day they will be working independently on assignments in Canvas.

Q How and where can I make a donation for the school supply kits?

A Please contact Christine Warr in the front office. 801-578-8226 or Christine.warr@slcschools.org

Q When will we know our students' schedules?

A We appreciate everyone's patience as we try and build schedules that can transition smoothly between online and hybrid learning. Students can expect to receive their schedules before the end of August.

Q When will we receive learning materials for the school year?

A Learning materials will be distributed on September 3rd and 4th.

Q What fees are required now that classes are online?

A We are committed to providing an engaging and interactive curriculum for students regardless of the learning paradigm. We will be sending home books and science learning kits during remote learning. Our teachers have been writing grants for additional supplies since sharing lab supplies and books is now no longer feasible or safe. There will be many additional expenses incurred by the school and we have no plans to change school fees at this time. School fees are determined through our shared governance process which includes input by parents at our School Community Council. Any fees that are not spent according to our spend plan will be refunded at the end of the school year.

Frequently Asked Questions (cont.)

Q How will Drivers Ed be taught this year?

A Driver's Ed will be available online through Canvas. Students will be able to sign up for drive times through a partner high school (in the past this has been West High School, we are still finalizing plans for the upcoming school year).

Q When will we know if we need to bring our student to SLCSE for assessments?

A There is one assessment all SLCSE students need to take this fall that takes between 20 and 45 minutes to complete. We will be scheduling small groups of students to take this assessment between August 26th and September 4th.

Q My student has a 504 plan, when can I set up a meeting to address the needs of my student?

A Rachel Fletcher is SLCSE's 504 coordinator this year. If you need to schedule an appointment about your child's 504 plan, please email her at Rachel.Fletcher@slcschools.org

Q Can my student not sit in scheduled virtual sessions but just work through material on her own with our support, take the test, and not be penalized?

A Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate this learning request. Teachers will be instructing students on new content during the virtual sessions and providing opportunities for students to learn from each other through collaborative activities. Those sessions will be critical for students to attend.

Q Will SLCSE follow the SLC School District policy and postpone in person learning for the 1st term?

A Yes, we will follow guidelines for opening made by the Salt Lake City School district. A determination to return will be made based on the positive test percentages (5% or less in Salt Lake County) and fewer than 10 new cases per 100,000 residents in Salt Lake County. If the determination is made to return to school in the hybrid model, that change would happen at a grading transition, mid-term or end of term. Any family who chooses to continue with remote learning will be able to do so. COVID numbers used to determine when it's safe to return to in-person learning are found at:

<https://slco.org/health/COVID-19/data/>

https://covidactnow.org/us/ut/county/salt_lake_county?s=883171

Frequently Asked Questions (cont.)

Q

Last spring some teachers held social hours for students to interact virtually. What plans are in place this year to support the social and emotional well-being of my child?

A

The social and emotional well-being of our students is at the forefront of our work this year and we are fully aware that a remote learning environment presents a unique set of challenges. By attending synchronous classes with their teacher and classmates, we hope to build in more time for students to be interacting and learning from each other. In addition, the SLCSE Academy class which meets virtually twice a week is a time for social interaction and opportunities for students to feel part of the SLCSE community. Teachers overwhelmingly reported that the most rewarding aspects of remote learning in the spring was time spent interacting with small groups of students over Zoom. Other online social activities will be provided throughout the year. Counselors will continue to work with students on well-being. We also have mental health services available through our wellbeing partnership with the University of Utah.

Q

Will the district pay for my student to be tested for COVID-19 if there is a positive case at school?

A

No. The district would refer the parent to their primary care provider and/or free community COVID testing.

Q

What safety precautions will be in place when students return to school?

A

We are finalizing safety procedures and protocols and will include those in future communications.

Q

My student does not have a computer at home to participate in online learning, can the school help?

A

Yes, when you register for SLCSE, please indicate your child needs a device. We will schedule days prior to the start of the school year for devices to be picked up.

Q

What if I have further questions?

A

Please add your questions [here](#). To be efficient and address questions in a timely manner, we have created a centralized spot to submit questions rather than emailing individuals with questions. We will send out updated FAQ as we receive questions.

Q

I want to refer back to a previous FAQ you sent out, is there a way for me to do that?

A

Previous FAQs can be found on our website www.slcse.org