

March 12, 2020

Dear Charter Arts faculty, students, and families,

The information regarding COVID-19 has been changing on a daily, and even hourly, basis. At Charter Arts, we have pulled a Remote Learning Team together, composed of core and artistic teachers, special educators, and school administration, to discuss strategies for continued learning should we need to close based upon recommendations from governmental agencies.

It is important to note that there are currently NO reported cases of COVID-19 associated with Charter Arts.

Out of an abundance of caution, we will be closing Charter Arts for all students for one day on Friday, March 13, 2020. During this time, our custodial team will be deep cleaning the building, and our faculty will have the opportunity to revise lectures, discussions, assignments, and performance work to prepare for remote learning. This is a precautionary measure to ensure that we can continue education in the event of an extended closure.

When students return to campus on Monday, March 16th, Charter Arts will also be instituting these precautionary measures:

- All non-essential visitors to Charter Arts will be restricted.
- All upcoming field trips will be postponed until further notice.
- All scheduled visiting artists will be postponed until further notice.
- A review of upcoming events and performances will be part of our planning tomorrow and additional communication regarding specific events will follow.
- All school-associated business travel is canceled until further notice.
- Open Campus for students will be suspended until further notice. Students should bring their lunch or plan to purchase it in the Commons Cafe. As a reminder, students may only report to the Commons during scheduled lunch periods to allow all students an opportunity to have a seat in the Commons.

As we continue to monitor the situation, restrictions will be lifted when it is safe to do so and information will be shared as it becomes available. Charter Arts will continue to seek the recommendations of the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

If your child or someone you live with has recently traveled internationally, we ask you to follow CDC recommendations and self-report to the Pennsylvania Department of Health 1-877-PA-HEALTH. We ask that if the Department of Health requests that your child or any other family member be placed in self-isolation, please contact my office at 610-868-2971 x 2434.

Mission Statement

The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts provides a unique environment that fosters a creative, rigorous academic approach to learning and a development of talents in the arts. Built on passion, discipline and a commitment to excellence, this integrative educational experience inspires all students to believe in who they are and in what they can accomplish.



Charter Arts is committed to the safety and security of our community. There is regularly updated information regarding COVID-19 available on the CDC (<https://www.cdc.gov/>) and DOH (<https://www.health.pa.gov/>) providing further details. We realize this is a growing public health concern that we take seriously. If your child is exhibiting symptoms such as a fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, they should stay at home.

If your district closes and Charter Arts remains open, your child's absences will be considered excused just as in the event of a snow delay or closure. However, students are still expected to keep up with their schoolwork.

In the event of a mandated closure, Charter Arts teachers will rely heavily upon the use of Google Classroom since our students and teachers already use this on a daily basis, and a document will be sent detailing each teachers' scheduled virtual office hours. Further, teachers will be posting lessons for remote learning on their digital classrooms. In addition, Google Classroom, Google Hangouts (audio/text only) and email will be the main communication channels for teachers and students during remote learning. Students will still need to check Google Classroom every day so that we can monitor student attendance as this is required for the state. We are aware of unique technology needs for particular students, and we will communicate individually with these families as needed. Our teachers will be reviewing these remote learning expectations with students this afternoon before they are released for the day.

Thank you,

Diane LaBelle

Executive Director & CEO