



EL CAMINO REAL ACADEMY

Re-Entry Options for ECRA Families

From Jennifer Mercer, Executive Director at ECRA

Dear ECRA Families,

Thank you for partnering with ECRA to provide the best possible education for your child, and working with us during these unprecedented times! We know the changes in spring were incredibly challenging and our thoughts are always with you! The safety of your child is our utmost concern and we are doing everything possible to safely provide the most optimal learning environment in these difficult times.

We appreciate your patience as New Mexico and the rest of the US has worked to create guidelines for our new reality. The pandemic has been unsettling for everyone, and we know that the stress and anxiety have been high for all, especially waiting to see what returning to school will look like for our children this fall.

You were the heroes last spring as school sites closed and the transition began! Thank you for your perseverance and fortitude as we all quickly pivoted into the online learning environment! We were successful and your children continued their education, which will greatly benefit them as they return this fall! WE are committed to you and your child's learning!

Thank you very much for your participation in our Re-Entry Survey and for sharing your thoughts. Your survey results indicate that 52.08% of you would prefer to have your children in the Online Only Learning environment to begin school this fall, and as a second choice, 44.79% prefer the small group size of 1-4 students at a time. We have used your data to work with the NMPED requirements and determine how we can best meet your needs.

We have some answers to share with you regarding ECRA's re-opening plan this fall. Since late last week, we continue to receive multiple NMPED Guidance documents that direct schools to utilize a hybrid model, which requires schools to offer instructional time on site. We have integrated your survey answers into our Re-Entry Plan and are developing ECRA's Remote Learning Plan to be submitted this week to PED. Thank you again for your important feedback!



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Please remember that with the current increases in the virus locally and across the state, the plans may change. We are prepared and will move to a different level of ECRA's Re-Entry plan as needed. This is also the reason that regardless of any public health orders or state mandates, ECRA's core educational program will remain online, so your children will always be able to count on their regular interaction with their teachers electronically.

We now continue our partnership and journey as we begin the 2020-2021 School Year! In light of this information, please see the information below about your options this year for your children at ECRA:

ECRA Learning Options

	Learning Options	Description	Duration
Option 1	Online Learning Only	Students will participate with their grade level teacher and peers in the online environment and have continuous access to all the live lessons and instructional activities through their Google Classroom. Project kits and materials will be provided for student learning at home.	Parents choosing this option for their student will remain in the Online Only learning environment for the semester. At that point, they may choose to join the re-entry leveled option as slots are available.
Option 2	Hybrid Learning	Students will receive their core instruction through the Google classroom online, and will attend school as outlined in the ECRA Re-Entry plan based on the public health orders and NMPED requirements, ECRA family's feedback, and the appropriate level for keeping students safe.	Families entering their students in this learning option always have the choice of remaining in the Hybrid model or changing to the Online Only model, by completing the written request form.



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More Information on our Hybrid Learning Option

If you are choosing the Hybrid Learning Option, we are currently at Level 3 of our Re-Entry Plan (please see attached). This level allows for Elementary students to return to school in groups of 1-5 students at a time. After Assessment Conferences in August, elementary students will become part of a Village (small group of 1-5 students) that will attend school one designated afternoon each week. They will work on projects and have direct contact with their teacher to address their individualized learning needs. Secondary students will be actively working online with a full daily schedule Monday through Thursday. On Friday, secondary groups of 1-7 students will alternate weeks to attend school and work on projects, STEAM activities, and other career-oriented learning experiences. The students not on campus will have online activities.

Project kits and other educational materials will be sent home with all students to enhance and enrich their learning experiences in conjunction with their live online lessons, demonstrations, activities, and assignments.

Safety

Safety is one of our top priorities and the afternoon class schedule allows for cleaning and disinfecting every morning, Monday through Thursday and afternoons on Friday in order to have a fully disinfected learning environment ready for you children. We are carefully following the CDC guidelines for disinfecting the school each day.

Meals for Students

We are working with our food vendor to develop and package multiple meals that can be distributed to you 2-3 times per week for our students. More information will be coming soon.

COVID-19 Testing

If you, a family member, or someone you have contact with, have tested positive for COVID-19, please contact me or Brenda Garcia at the school as soon as possible. We want to support you and maintain the safety of all students, while following the state mandates.

Masks

Your child will be asked to have a mask as part of their uniform when they come to school and temperature checks will also occur. The parent handbook is being updated and will be available to you soon.



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Technology

We are working on acquiring additional devices, internet access options, and developing short instructional videos to help you and your children with a variety of the online learning components.

Thank you for your patience during these uncertain times. We know that things may continue to change based on the public health orders, however we will remain consistent in our care and quality educational practices for your child. We wanted to have a clear plan to share with you before reaching out, and are happy to provide the two options at this point in time.

Please do consider the options that we can provide for your child and know that we will always do our very best to facilitate your child's learning and development! Additional information will be made available shortly to address the details of how these options will work on a day to day basis.

We value your support and partnership in this process and hope you will remain an integral part of the ECRA community!

Respectfully yours,

Jennifer Mercer
Executive Director
El Camino Real Academy