LPCSC K-8 Families,

Thank you for a great start to the 2020-2021 school year. While the start has been unprecedented, we have certainly experienced positive learning gains with the implementation of learning option choices.

LPCSC is now asking all K-8 families to register their students’ learning plan option in between September 22, 2020, and October 6, 2020, for the second nine weeks of school, which starts on October 26, 2020. With experiences gained from the start of the school year, it is LPCSC’s intention that the new selection will be the learning option for students for the continuation of the 2020-2021 school year. Committing to a long term learning option will allow LPCSC to stabilize staffing and classroom/school building COVID restriction procedures for the continuation of the school year.

Please know we are actively following updates and protocol from the Health Department and Governor's Office, which should include information about advancements in COVID medical treatment, including vaccines. If there is significant change from the Health Department and Governor's Office before the end of the school year, learning option change opportunities may occur accordingly. Targeted learning option change dates will be at the 9 week grading period intervals for any unforeseen Health Department, Government, or family circumstances which would cause the need for a learning option change. We ask families to please think their learning option decision through before registering.

Please read the following guidelines around in-person and distance learning plan options. We are asking families to commit to meeting those adjusted guidelines and to attend their learning option choice for the remainder of the school year, as adjustments to learning option plans outside of district formalized times for change place a significant strain on our staffing and resources.
Important Timelines for K-8 Students/Families

- **Sept. 22, 2020**, Window to submit a request to change the learning plan option opens. Please log into your Skyward account to request the change.
- **Oct. 6, 2020**, Window to submit a request to change learning plan option closes (please complete form by 5:00 p.m.).
- **October 6- October 16, 2020**, LPCSC staff will be contacting families who have chosen a learning option that may not be best suited for their student. If you are not contacted, families can assume their learning choice has been approved.
- **October 19-21, 2020**, students will be contacted with new distance or classroom learning assignments if they have been altered.

Guidelines & Expectations for Learning Option Choices from October 26, 2020 through the rest of the school year:

1. Once a learning option change request is placed, the student must continue with that selection for the duration of the school year. The intent of learning plan options is to provide choice, but not to change multiple times during the school year. As stated above, LPCSC will do its best to accommodate learning changes (at the nine week intervals) stemming from unforeseen circumstances.
2. The LPCSC offered the Distance Learning Academy as an option for families during the State of Indiana’s “Getting Back on Track” plan. The corporation will make learning plan adjustments in accordance with the Governor’s updated plan.
3. The availability to meet parent requests for student learning options is based on school resources including staffing and school building capacity. While every effort will be made to keep distance learning students with the initial distance learning teacher, changes may occur to balance class sizes. Students are not guaranteed the same distance teacher from the beginning of the school year. Please make your learning option choice based on your family’s needs, not other’s needs.
4. For distance learning, it is imperative that students continue to make academic progress equivalent to that which they would otherwise make in a classroom setting; therefore, students will be closely monitored.
5. Families requesting to change from in-person learning to distance learning must review the distance learning schedule and expectations for distance learning.
Requests will be closely reviewed to ensure that there is a valid reason to leave in-person learning.

6. Families requesting to change from distance learning to in-person learning must review the school’s COVID safety plan and comply with all safety precautions and measures in response to COVID.

7. Students receiving special services (Special Education, ELL) will work with the teacher of record and the learning option change request will be reviewed in partnership with the building based team or IEP committee.

8. Distance Learning requires robust Internet connectivity. The vast majority of instruction takes place online and requires Internet connectivity that can support video playback.

9. Before completing the Skyward learning option, we ask that families **please think through their ability to support the learning option choice**. Distance learner’s families should think through a back up plan in case of faulty home internet connectivity and a backup plan for adult supervision of distance learners during school hours in case family caregiver circumstances change.

To complete your learning option choice, please log into your family Skyward account and go to Online Forms. Any additional questions you may have can be sent to lpcslearningoptions@lpcsc.k12.in.us of your student’s building principal.