



# UTOPIAN

ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

2750 Forest Parkway Ellenwood, GA 30294  
470-446-1070 (Office)

Dr. Artesius Miller  
Executive Director

Dr. Selina Dukes-Walton  
Elementary School Principal

Dr. Ron Boykins  
Middle School Principal

Joshua Meniffee  
Board Chairman

**November 16, 2020**

Dear UAFA Parents, Faculty, and Staff:

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your partnership in making our virtual start to the 2020-21 academic year a success. Together, we have mastered the key to teaching and learning online, during a global pandemic. Our elementary and middle school scholars are engaged in their classes and are adapting to the use of interactive technology with ease, a skill that will serve them well as they prepare for college and careers.

The UAFA Governing Board is very pleased with our progress. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, the board has decided to delay a decision on the reopening of classes on campus until the December meeting due to the recent spike in COVID-19 infections in Georgia. Unfortunately, the science simply does not support a return to business as usual at this time. The board will take another look at the infection rates in the metro area next month and make a recommendation on the state of the virtual academic programs for the two individual schools.

Record high national totals of COVID-19 are being reported across the country almost daily. There are more than [9 million confirmed cases](#) of the coronavirus in the United States. According to public health officials, some [355,000](#) confirmed cases have been reported in Georgia. In Clayton County, where UAFA is located, there have been [8,200 confirmed cases](#) of COVID-19. That number has grown substantially since March 2020, when Clayton reported only nine cases.

Since the start of the new academic year, the UAFA Charter School Network has been working diligently to make the campus as safe as possible in preparation for the return of students. Employees have participated in mandatory COVID-19 testing and high-tech automated temperature-reading kiosks have been installed in the front office. All faculty, staff, parents, and visitors stand before the device to check for COVID-19 symptoms when they enter the building. An industrial fogger is used by cleaning crews to sanitize classrooms, hallways, offices, and common areas daily.

We have also been adhering to guidance from the Centers for Disease Control on COVID-19 prevention. Face masks are required for employees who report to campus and visitors who enter school grounds. Hand-sanitizing stations have been posted in hallways. Social distancing of at least six feet is maintained throughout the building.

We look forward to the time when students can return to classrooms in small groups. Monitor your emails for updates and make sure that we have your current contact information so that you can stay informed about any changes to our academic and safety plans.



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Please know that we miss our scholars.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Artesius Miller*

Dr. Artesius Miller  
UAFA Charter School Network Superintendent

cc: Dr. Ron Boykins  
Principal, UAFA Middle School

Dr. Selina Walton  
Principal, UAFA Elementary School