

## Update to Parents Regarding Reopening School - July 9, 2020

### Goals

- 1 - Provide a safe school environment for students and staff
- 2 - Provide a rigorous whole child education for students

Goal 1 - Carden Conejo will provide a safe school environment for students and staff.

Carden is enlisting a two pronged approach. First, we will work to keep covid 19 off of our campus. Second, we will respond quickly to control the spread if covid19 is found on campus. We are continually reviewing and considering information from physicians, epidemiologists, scientists, and county and state sources when planning.

- Students will receive a health check when they arrive at school, including a temperature check. If a student clears the check, she/he will proceed straight to her/his homeroom. **Parents will under no circumstances send a sick child to school.** A health check should be conducted each day at home before coming to school that includes a temperature check.
- All classes will have a maximum of 15 students.
- Each class will serve as a separate cohort.
- Students will stay with classmates from their own cohort, and will not mix with students from different cohorts.
- Learning spaces will be socially distanced.
- There will be increased hygiene protocols, including additional hand washing stations.
- If a student becomes ill with covid-like symptoms, they stay home to isolate. The ill student cannot return until 10 days from the onset of symptoms or upon a negative test showing their illness was something other than COVID-19. If the ill student's test was positive for COVID-19, we would consult with the infectious disease liaison at the Ventura County department of public health, to determine if the cohort would then stay home and quarantine.

- Should a student present with covid-like symptoms while on campus, s/he will be moved to an isolated sick room. An adult will be there to supervise. Parents will be contacted and asked to pick up the student as quickly as possible.
- Students will wear a face covering while on campus. There may be opportunities for mask breaks when the students are playing on the yard. There are three opportunities a day for outside play; recess, lunch play time and sports class. A final determination regarding face coverings for students will be made according to recommendations forthcoming from the state and/or the county, and scientific data. Teachers will wear face shields and possibly a face covering as well.
- Specialist teachers will most often travel into the homeroom class for instruction. Specialist teachers will wear face shields and might teach from behind a plastic partition. Specialist class time will be less than one hour so as not to break the cohort.
- A new staff position will be created. This person will help our teachers and staff follow cleaning guidelines that include wiping down common touch surfaces three to four times each day and sanitizing the entire classroom at the end of the day.
- NEW - Some private schools in our area are acting on physician recommendations and asking all students to receive a covid test within a 14 day period before school starts. Also, that families not travel using public transportation for a 14 day period before school starts. This would accomplish two things.
  - Covid can be detected on a test for weeks or possibly longer after a person has recovered. A student may have received a positive test, but they might actually have recovered weeks ago. If the baseline test was not taken 14 days prior to the start of school, then a student testing positive for COVID-19 during the school year would have to be isolated at home for an additional 10 days.
  - Community-wide testing establishes a baseline for the presence of covid in our Carden Community.

Carden is considering covid testing for all students within 14 days of August 31st, the first day with students on campus to meet the teachers. Instruction begins on

September 3rd. If testing is mandated Carden will work to set up an easy, efficient testing site.

Goal 2 - Carden Conejo will provide a rigorous whole child education.

- Carden will offer full day instruction five days a week.
- Should a member of a cohort show covid-like symptoms, the cohort will move to live, interactive instruction at home. Language arts, social studies, math and science lessons will be taught live using Google Meet. Pre-recorded Art, music, French, computer and sports lessons will be accessed on the Carden Youtube channel.
- Should the entire school move off campus as the result of a county or state mandate, live, interactive instruction will be provided for language arts, social studies, math, science and some additional specialist classes. Other specialist teachers will then add to the online library.
- If a student is unable to attend on campus classes due to medical issues, or if a family is uncomfortable sending a student to school, the student may attend the class virtually through Google Meet sessions..

- Upper School

The Upper School will continue to offer its exceptional specialist classes. Under a new model, all specialist teachers will travel into the homeroom classroom to deliver instruction. Specialist Teachers will maintain a distance of six feet or greater during instruction time so as not to break the cohort.

- Primary School

Primary school students will be seated at individual desks rather than shoulder to shoulder at a large table in order to achieve social distancing.

**Play Program** (Carden's after school care program) will be offered ONLY to those families requiring child care. Families requiring child care will need to commit to Play Program for an entire quarter. There will be a change to the fee for this program that will be shared at a later time.

