

the
CHARTER SCHOOL

June 26, 2020

Dear Charter School families,

I hope this letter finds you enjoying beautiful summer days on the Vineyard. Yesterday, we received word from Commissioner Riley of the Department of Education regarding the opening in September. The Initial Fall School Reopening Guidance memo is attached.

Commissioner Riley has asked us to prepare for three specific scenarios.

1. Continuation of remote learning;
2. A hybrid model, and;
3. A full opening of the school building with social distancing protocols put in place. The health and safety guidelines for in-person learning can be found on pages 8-11.

Over the next few weeks, our school's Building Transition Team will work to develop the details of each scenario, as it will apply to our school. We are delighted that Christopher Anderson will be a member of this committee. Much thought will be given to maintaining the integrity and spirit of our community while adhering to the guidelines. This plan needs to be submitted to the state in August. We will release specific details of these plans after we receive a final confirmation from the state that our plans are acceptable. Commissioner Riley reiterated that the path of COVID-19 would be the determining factor in deciding which scenario is selected.

Your feedback throughout this process is essential. A survey was sent out this week, asking for your opinion on our remote learning plan. Additional surveys will be sent out throughout the summer to determine community needs regarding technology, transportation, and scheduling. Please complete these surveys to help us determine how best to move forward.

We appreciate your patience as we develop these plans. We imagine that there are many things you wonder about regarding the opening of school with appropriate social distancing, flexibility if there are changes in the dynamic of the pandemic, etc. We are thinking of, researching options for, and collaborating nearly daily about the various components, challenges, and logistics of opening our school to all of our students. The work is well underway to find solutions to barriers, and we will communicate our progress in solving those items for each possible scenario as summer progresses and status updates about the course of COVID-19 evolve.

In addition to completing the survey(s), reach out and talk to us with any thoughts or concerns you may have. We can assure you we want to, in the very same way all other schools and districts wish to, have your children back in their classrooms in the fall. Only the progression of COVID-19 and the evolving direction mandated by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education are wildcards in this effort. We are ready to pivot as needed to adjust to those evolving factors. As always, if you have any questions, please reach out to me at psteadman@mvpes.org.

Sincerely,



the
CHARTER SCHOOL

Pete Steedman, Ed. D.
Director

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