

Dear All,

June 26, 2020

We are hard at work, planning for what we anticipate could be three different programs in the coming year (from September through June), depending on the success of the world-wide, national, and local control of COVID 19 over which we wish we had some control. Because we don't, here is what we contemplate:

1. We will open school on Wednesday, September 2nd with as many adults and students working and learning together on campus as we possibly can along with a strong Distance Learning Community Program (DLCP) for those who for one reason or another (health and/or familial) will need that either regularly or for extended periods of time;
2. If and only if health and safety conditions allow, we could move to an all school on campus model at some point; or
3. We could conceivably have no choice but to return to a DLCP program for all, all depending on conditions extant at any given time at some point(s) during the upcoming school year.

Schools that appear to be making promises to families otherwise are not facing the uncertainty that exists for everyone. We are small, flexible, adaptable, intentional, and focused. We want to be sure we are ready for any eventuality.

Based on the California Health Department, CA Department of Education, local and CDC recommendations and guidelines (which are continuously updated), we are working over the summer to provide a high standard of care for health and hygiene for all people who will be on campus. We started making new anticipated purchases and adjustments very soon after the campus was closed in March and we continue to do so.

Even when school is out for the summer in a "normal" year, many of us remain hard at work. This is especially true this year as we continue to study all available information, read all reports, get professional health and safety advice, and make several detailed contingency plans as indicated above. Conditions and procedures, and changes to the normal operation of school on campus, will be distributed later in the summer. We learned a lot in the last three months about how to maintain a creative, fun, and rigorous learning program from a distance. We have learned over the past 48 1/2 years before that how to make a pluralistic education most beneficial to each and every one of our students on campus. You will all be receiving the school newsletter, PeriScope, in the next few weeks with a large section highlighting PS1 alumni of the 1980s. Yes, the school has evolved and grown since then; you will also recognize through many alumni's own words about their PS1 years that the heart and soul of the school reads and feels very much the same as the experience you are having now.

Thank you for your patience and trust. More details will be shared at different points over the next two months before we begin the new school year. Happy summer.

Joel