



COMMONWEALTH ACADEMY

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Dear Families,

I come to you today with an update on our reopening plans and with good news.

As you know, the school has been diligently monitoring data and working on preparing for in-person instruction for quite a while now. I had shared with you as the year started that we would announce our shift to a hybrid in-person instruction model with two-weeks' notice as soon as it was possible to do so.

I am happy to share with you that this time has come and that **our first day of in-person instruction will officially be Monday, October 19th** (please see below for divisional-specific dates). We will follow our hybrid plan, which I'm happy to report we were able to improve in impactful ways.

In an effort to provide our students with the most robust educational experience possible in a hybrid environment, we were able to temporarily reinvent and redesign our physical space and infrastructure. More specifically, we have undertaken a construction project consisting of temporarily merging 14 classrooms into 7 by opening walls, which doubles the space available for onsite instruction. This will allow us to host whole class sections in person and eliminates the need to connect to a class livestream, all the while strictly adhering to the required health and safety guidelines. Also, we have refined our procedures and designated physical locations for our youngest learners, which will help preserve the integrity of their cohort.

Practically speaking, here is what these improvements allow us to do:

1. We will be able to welcome **all Lower School students back to campus five days a week** (details of the new schedule will be shared by Mr. Seré soon)
2. We will be able to welcome **all Middle school students on campus** for in-person learning on **both Monday and Tuesday**, and **all High School students on both Thursday and Friday**.

You will find below the broad strokes of the reopening plan so that you can best prepare and know what to expect.

- Friday, October 9th: This is a scheduled student holiday and a faculty and staff workday. Teachers will use this time to complete the last phase of their training and preparation for in-person instruction.
- Monday, October 12th: No School/student holiday - Fall break (as planned - no change)
- Tuesday, October 13th - Friday, October 16th:
 - Students work remotely as they have so far - no change
 - In addition to teaching, faculty engage in additional relevant training and prepare classrooms.
 - Please note that in order to complete the training while continuing to deliver content, some content may need to be delivered asynchronously. The Division Directors will be in close contact with you to provide more details.
 - **Parents drop off all medications to Mrs. Schriver.**
- Monday, October 19th & Tuesday, October 20th:
 - **Lower and Middle School students and faculty** on campus for in-person instruction
 - High School students and faculty work remotely, as per the hybrid schedule
- Wednesday, October 21st:
 - Asynchronous learning day for students
 - ACT as planned (Gym)
- Thursday, October 22nd & Friday, October 23rd:
 - **High School students and faculty** on campus for in-person instruction
 - **Lower School students** on campus for in-person instruction
 - Middle School students work remotely
- Monday, October 26th & Tuesday, October 27th:
 - **Lower and Middle School students** on campus for in-person instruction
 - High School students work remotely

- Wednesday, October 28th:
 - Asynchronous learning day for students
- Thursday, October 29th & Friday, October 30th:
 - **High School students** on campus for in-person instruction
 - PSATs on campus as planned on 10/29 (gym - PE modified)
 - **Lower School students** on campus for in-person instruction
 - Middle School students work remotely
- Monday, Nov. 1st and Tuesday, Nov. 2nd: **No classes - Parent conferences - will be held virtually to preserve the integrity of cohorts and limit exposure**

As we use the next few days to put the final touches on our transition, we need your feedback. To serve all of our students as well as possible, we would like to know if your child will partake in in-person instruction once the hybrid model is implemented on Monday, October 19th. **Please take a moment to complete [this survey](#) and submit your answer to us by this Thursday, 10/1, close of business.** Thank you in advance for your feedback.

I look forward to seeing all of you soon. Please don't hesitate to reach out to any of us if you have any questions.

Kind Regards,



Anabelle C. Morgan
Head of School