

July 17, 2020

Dear Parents,

As you may be aware, Governor Newsom gave a press conference at noon today outlining new guidelines for the reopening of schools in California – public and private. The guidelines indicate that the county in which a school is located must have been off of the STATE MONITORING LIST for at least 14 consecutive days in order to open for in-person instruction.

As you probably are aware, in spite of the progress that was made earlier in the Spring here locally, the situation in Santa Clara County has been getting worse over the course of the past month or so, which caused Santa Clara County to be placed on the Monitoring List on Wednesday of this week. (That is the reason why hair salons and other similar businesses had to close again on Wednesday, after having only been allowed to open two days prior.)

So what does this mean for us? In simple terms, it means that the situation needs to improve in Santa Clara County for our in-person re-opening plan to be permissible. School begins on August 17, one month from today. With today's announcement by the Governor, it seems more likely that we will need to begin the school year with everyone studying remotely, rather than the HyFlex model. We will make a definitive decision about whether the start of the school year will be in person or remote no later than July 31st, and sooner if we can.

From the beginning, we have anticipated that we would not remain in one mode throughout the school year. When we released our plan on July 2, our hope at that time was to be able to begin in HyFlex, and then be prepared to pivot to remote instruction at a later date when local circumstances dictated that need. Now, it seems likely that we'll need to begin with remote instruction, and transition to HyFlex when that is permissible and we have had adequate time for everyone to prepare for that transition.

We continue to prioritize safety and health first and foremost, while also placing a premium on being in-person. This news is only a few hours old, and we haven't yet had time to sort through all of what it will mean, or work through the implications with our staff. But we also didn't just want to write you today with the implication that we are charging forward full steam ahead when it appears that may not be feasible.

Please know that our faculty and staff are eager to work with and get to know your sons, and will deliver an outstanding education to them, whether in-person, remotely, or a combination of the two. We also will continue to examine how else we may be able to gather students together safely, such as through athletics and other co-curricular activities to the degree that such activities are able to take place.

As has been our mantra for some time, we will continue to communicate with you to keep you apprised of this ever-evolving situation.

Sincerely,

Chris Meyercord
President

Kristina Luscher
Principal