

July 24, 2020

Dear KSDS Families,

We hope that, in the midst of all of the challenges presented by the ongoing pandemic, that you have had the opportunity this summer for some relaxation, some family experiences and some rest!

We are so grateful to our entire community for your reflection and thinking this summer about models for reopening the school in September 2020. This document was created (and continues to be revised) in ongoing consultation with our medical experts, our partners at other AIMS private schools in the Baltimore/DC area, our amazingly dedicated KSDS faculty, board members, advisory committees, parents, and administrative teams, and reflects best practices related to our children's health, safety, academic, social and emotional needs.

Please [click here to review the KSDS Reopening Plan](#), current as of 7/24/20, as posted on our website. This reopening plan shares details of some of the many scenarios we are considering. One or more of them may be implemented at various points throughout the year depending upon the ever-evolving nature of this pandemic. Our plan calls for flexibility and adaptation. It also details the health and safety measures in place for any model that includes on-campus learning and previews the ways that on-campus learning will be different than last fall and the ways that at-home learning will be different than last spring.

It is with purpose and reflection that this plan does not yet state definitively the model under which we will open school at the beginning of September. We know that we would all - parents, students and teachers - like clarity about the school model for September. We appreciate your understanding that, as Governor Hogan stated this week, reopening schools is not a decision made hastily, and that patience and continued reflective responsiveness to an evolving set of circumstances will help us all make the best decision possible.

In order to finalize our reopening plan, we will send you a **parent survey through which you will indicate your first trimester (Sept-Nov) decision for at-home or on-campus learning for your child(ren), depending on the model under which KSDS will be**

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operating. The Reopening Plan slides linked above share more details about these plans. The survey will ask you:

IF KSDS operates with a fully on-campus model 5 days a week (with safety restrictions), do you choose to have your child(ren):

- a) learn on campus whenever KSDS meets on campus (following all of the safety protocols outlined in the reopening plan) or
- b) learn at home whenever KSDS meets on campus (acknowledging that your child might be livestreaming from an on-campus class or might have dedicated at-home classes, depending on at-home number of students).

IF KSDS operates with a hybrid model (some days at-home and some days on-campus each week), do you choose to have your child(ren):

- a) learn on campus on the hybrid days that KSDS meets on-campus (following all of the safety protocols outlined in the reopening plan)

or

- b) learn at home on the days KSDS meets on campus (acknowledging that your child might be livestreaming from an on-campus class or might have some dedicated at-home classes, depending on at-home number of students)

- **The survey will be open from Tuesday, July 28 through Friday, July 31 at 5pm.**
- **You will be able to indicate individual decisions for each of your children.**
- **Please note that parents will not be able to change their selections after 7/31.** We will be finalizing staffing, spaces and class groupings based on the decisions you provide in this survey. Requests for changes made after the survey is closed will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis and will depend on availability in the grade/section.

Based on the data from the parent survey, and in consultation with the current health situation, we intend to announce by August 10th the model that will govern the opening of school on September 2nd.

- Parents should expect that if we do begin with a model that includes on-campus learning, the students coming on-campus will be phased in over the course of the first 1-3 weeks of the school year. Any students whose grades are not yet phased in for on-campus learning will have a full schedule of at-home learning starting on the first day of school.

What comes next?

- **Please** carefully review the reopening document linked above, including clicking through all links to on-campus safety protocols and reading the detailed information found in each link.
- **We invite you to attend our KSDS Parent Town Hall on Monday evening, July 27, 2020 at 8pm via Zoom:**

- If you have specific questions that you would like us to address please submit them by Monday at noon to Miriam Golob mgolob@ksds.edu.

We want to offer our sincere thanks to everyone connected with KSDS for your continued patience, flexibility, and support as we work to plan a productive and meaningful academic year. This is a very special community, and we are privileged to have each other as we work through this ongoing crisis.

We look forward to seeing you (in whatever KSDS learning environment you might be!) this fall.

Rabbi Moshe Schwartz, Head of School

Mrs. Wendy Gelber, Lower School Head

Dr. Robyn Blum, Middle School Head

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