

July 16, 2020

An Important Update from the Shalom School Board of Trustees

As you probably know, yesterday, the Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools announced that 13 public school districts in our county will not reopen in the fall. Unlike public schools, independent schools, including Shalom School, operate under a very different set of parameters. We function under unique circumstances—including Shalom School's ability to offer small class sizes—that allow us to look at every aspect of campus safety and make plans that enable us to mitigate risk in a way that just isn't possible for large public institutions.

Our priority is the health and safety of our children, staff, and families, and we believe that on-campus instruction is vitally important in meeting the social, emotional, and academic needs of our children. Our reopening plans are designed to provide the safest possible environment for our students and staff, and given our ability to meet or exceed all current public health guidelines, it remains our plan to reopen for oncampus education five days a week on August 19th.

The Board of Trustees has been working closely with the school administration on our school reopening plans for the 2020-21 school year. Shalom School has been in close consultation with the Sacramento County Department of Public Health and has reviewed all reopening plans with them. We are able to meet or exceed all guidelines provided by them and by the Sacramento County Office of Education and the California Department of Public Health. Additionally, we are following the guidelines of the CDC and the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Finally, in addition to the planning taking place among administrators and teachers, we have a local COVID-19 Advisory Group made up of medical and public health experts advising us on protocols and practices specific to our campus.

ECE classrooms opened over the summer with newly-implemented COVID-19 protocols. Administrators and board members participated in a Zoom call with elementary school families last week to discuss the reopening plan for the elementary school with new protocols for cleaning and sanitizing, scheduling, staffing, facilities use, and class configurations. A similar Zoom call is scheduled tonight at 5 pm with our ECE families.

We will continue to stay in touch with local officials and consult with medical and public health experts to ensure our decisions are based on the most current and best information to ensure the safety our students, staff, and families. Please do not hesitate to contact Board of Trustees President Andrew Bluth or any member of the Board of Trustees about the current reopening process or any Shalom School matter.

20 - 21 Shalom School ECE COVID-19 Guidelines for Parents

20 - 21 Shalom School K -6 COVID-19 Guidelines for Parents

Shalom School's mission is to provide each child with an outstanding education in a nurturing environment that is academically excellent, inclusive, innovative, and inspired by Jewish values and traditions.

www.shalomschool.org



