

Friday July, 24, 2020

CIS Community,

Carolina International School holds the health and welfare of our school community as paramount in our decision making process. Administrators and school stakeholders have spent much time, effort, and planning to provide a plan appropriate for our students, teachers, and parents during the conditional state of this pandemic. Based on the evaluated factors, we have decided that the safest course of action for CIS is to utilize Remote Instruction for a minimum of the first 4 weeks of the school year. We will then reevaluate whether it will be necessary to continue Remote Instruction, or if we will be able to transition to a Plan B roll out. The Plan B would consist of our school opening to students for a rotational on campus and social distancing approach to learning.

Given the fluid nature of this unprecedented pandemic, we will continue to reassess the health of our immediate and surrounding counties on a regular basis and will react appropriately in the best interest of our school community.

Teachers will participate in preservice training the week of August 10 –August 14. Teachers will receive training in new and additional digital programs, virtual conferencing, guidelines for the use of personal protective equipment, and social distancing. We will also sanitize all devices and personalize your child's materials needed for remote learning.

Homeroom teachers will begin (August 3 – August 7) to make contact (via phone or virtually) with their students and parents to provide a personal introduction, collect information as to technology devices and internet needs, as well as, any needs related to meals, school supplies, or childcare. We will continue to partner with community resources in an effort to provide for our students.

Our first week of remote instruction as indicated on our revised calendar begins August 17 – through August 21. During this week parents will be assigned a designated time to come to campus to receive any devices, books, workbooks, or personal items for your student(s). We will reserve August 17 for all new families. Three additional parent groups reflective of alphabetical last names will arrive on campus August 18, August 19, August 20, with August 21 primarily consisting of a "make up collection" day. This week we will also provide teacher introduction to groups via the Zoom platform. Items will be delivered to your car by staff members. You will need to sign an AUP agreement for your student(s) laptops, with no other contact necessary.

CIS will host a Virtual Open House on Friday, August 14. While we would love to conduct an on campus Open House the present reality prevents any large gathering event. During the Virtual Open House, you will be introduced to our new Head of School, administrators, counselors, teachers by grade levels, elective teachers, special needs teachers, athletic directors, and our office staff. This meeting will also reacquaint you with those returning faculty members and our new members.

You will receive additional weekly information as we again move into a new perspective of education for 2020 - 2021. While the time we share in our societal ills is most disheartening, we will provide academic excellence coupled with individual care and concern for your children and your family.

With sincere respect,

Donna Harkey – CIS Principal

Joseph Canty – CIS Head of School