



# **BACK TO SCHOOL**

# **FALL 2020**

*Updated Plan July 2020*



# PROCESS

- Back-to-School Committee met throughout the summer to plan for each department the safe return of the students on Campuses (Facilities, HR, Communication, Health...)
- The Nurse office has kept the committee abreast on health and safety recommendations provided by Health Services (CDC / MSDE);
- The plan has evolved according to CDC / MSDE / AIMS recommendations but also because the physical capacity of the school to insure these recommendations were applied thoroughly (e.g. Capacity of each classroom);
- The committee has also studied plans implemented by international and independent schools in the DVM and in the US ;
- Parent surveys have been conducted in June to gather feedback on Distance Learning YET additional parent and teachers surveys need to be conducted this summer to gather additional/updated data regarding family and teachers willingness to go back to school.



# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Keep our community healthy and make sure that IF we are opening it's not only for 2 weeks;
- Plan a reopening that is functional and feasible (all promises must be kept);
- Provide students and teachers with technology tools that enable them to be successful;
- Offer an increased learning experience to our students regardless of the mode of delivery (technology, staffing, schedule...)
- Ensure that our commitment to equity, justice, and inclusion shapes and informs our programs and planning process



# CONSTRAINTS TO KEEP IN MIND

- 3 campuses with limited in space and limited capacity for outdoors activities
- Limited number of classroom available to respect social distancing (class of 10 to 12 students).
- Teachers intentions on going back to school are still not clear
- Parents intentions on going back to school will depend on the organization of the plan and quality of its implementation.



# HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

- Increased air circulation by keeping classroom doors open always and windows open when weather permits;
- New traffic flow protocols, such as one-way hallways, stairways;
- Designated doorways for ingress and egress;
- Desks spaced 6 feet apart, facing one direction;
- In the labs, use of plexiglass dividers between;
- Use of outdoor spaces for outdoor classrooms when possible;
- Training health protection protocols for all students;
- Increased frequency of cleaning and disinfecting procedures daily;
- Isolation rooms in all three campuses.



# MEASURES TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE

- Parents will have health screen their child before sending them to school and report to nurse;
- Equip staff with PPE (masks, face-shields...);
- Flu vaccination encouraged for students and employees;
- Staggered students arrival and dismissal times to avoid crowding;
- Inforce proper physical distancing (at least 6 feet) between students at all times;
- Requirements for face coverings for all students and faculty/staff;
- Frequent hand washing time built into daily schedule (touchless faucets);
- No visitors on campus, including parents;
- Renting portable on Forest campus to welcome more students and respect social distancing (under process)
- **Students kept in small, intact cohorts to mitigate viral transmission (10-12 students per classroom with one teacher)**



# OTHER CONSEQUENCES ON DAILY LIFE

- No large in-person gatherings; assemblies, presentations.....BUT use virtual format when necessary;
- All parent/teachers meetings will be done virtually including: Professional Development, Back-to-School Night, parent meetings, New Parents Welcome;
- In-person field trips and student travel programs suspended;
- Faculty/staff travel to conferences / PD suspended;
- School Theatre, Music clubs are suspended (Musical and theatrical performances could use virtual format only; no live audiences);
- All athletic competitions are suspended.



# BEFORE WE START SCHOOL

- All families (and students 18 or over) must sign Return to School Waiver agreeing to abide by all health and safety protocols and acknowledging an understanding of risk associated with sending their children to School for in-person learning;
- All students and teachers have option for 100% distance learning at any point during the school year;





# BACK TO SCHOOL IN PERSON

Back to school with *In Person* teaching is being planned under certain conditions:

- Social distancing has to be respected at all time;
- Cohorting / Poding is mandatory in order to limit risks;
- Back to school will be organized by phases for efficiency reasons;
- Plan might change according to
  - MSDE recommendations (**at this time disagreement between State and County on in person teaching for all school**)
  - The number of teachers who are ready to be back *in person*
  - The number of students who are ready to be back *in person*
  - The portable units cannot be installed on Forest Campus



# WHY PHASING?

- Parents and employees practice using daily health screening app/form;
- Health team able to collect and process daily health screening data;
- School, administrator have time to organize students flow through the buildings.
- Teachers will have more time to adjust to the new hybrid mode.



# HYBRID SCENARIO

		PRIMARY	SECONDARY
PHASE 1	Sep. 8	PS (B) - Immersion - CP (RWD) - Full Time	6e - Full Time
PHASE 2	Sep 28	MS (B) - Full Time	2nd - Part Time Hybrid(A/B week)
PHASE 3	Oct 26	GS (B + RWD) + CE1 (F) - Full Time	3e - Part Time Hybrid (A/B week)
PHASE 4	Nov 16	CE2 (F) - Part Time (hybrid)	5e et 4e - Part Time Hybrid(A/B week)
PHASE 5	NOV 30	CM1/2 - Part Time (hybrid)	1e - T - Part Time Hybrid(A/B week) If restriction on cohorting are lifted



# CONSEQUENCES OF COHORTING

All students remain in intact cohorts in same classroom with minimal contact with other cohorts for in-person learning with one teacher in the classroom.

## Safety Benefits:

- Intact cohorts reduce risk of viral transmission for students and teachers;
- Contact tracing made possible with cohorts.

## Learning Implications:

- Limited or non existent direct in-person instruction from subject-area teachers such as Spanish, English;
- Optional classes will have to be all online;
- Class composition might be less heterogeneous (ex. All students with Flesco needs in the same cohort).



# PREMIERES AND TERMINALES

Although Premieres and Terminales are preparing for their final exams, the organization of the courses makes it impossible to keep students in cohorts.

Having Premieres and terminales students on campus represent:

- A higher risk of contamination
- A higher risk of having to close the school if some students or teachers are to get sick (all contamination cases will have to be reported)



# NEXT STEPS

- Survey teachers and parents;
- Meet regularly with teachers to plan the pedagogical organization of their curriculum per grade and subjects;
- Organize and articulate *in-person teaching* and virtual learning.
- Monitor County and State decisions as to Private schools in-person reopening

## TO BE DECIDED...

- Do we agree that 1ere and terminale will start virtually for the first trimester to ensure cohorting?