

Parent Council News & Updates: *May 2020*

Parent Council Notes May 6, 2020, 8:30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEMS

Program Delivery for Distance Learning or Other Options to Close Year and Open 2020-21 SY

1. School is looking at multiple permutations including school safety, financial sustainability, and quality learning and will announce their conceptual models for next
2. School will **not** reopen this semester. All classes will finish in Distance Learning mode.
3. Questions about Primary model for home schooling. The school is going to continue modifying and delivering more robust teaching for Primary if distance learning continues in August.
4. Question asking for more connectivity for elementary school students. Distance learning will be more robust in August if school starts in that mode, while keeping in mind emotional and mental health of all students and staff.
5. CNG asking returning teachers to stay in country to ensure continuity in case borders continue to be shut down.
6. Entering K4 parents will be contacted by the Primary office with the class lists and teacher before the end of the school year. The teacher will connect with each child individually to establish an emotional bond.
7. Question: Will seniors be allowed to go to campus and say goodbye? 17 students of this graduating class were accepted into the top 30 universities (ivy league and ivy league plus) and also 100% acceptance into Los Andes. Also highest rate in scholarships. This is the best acceptance rate to date! CNG has not lost hope to create a moment of closure and celebration for the seniors.
8. Discord regarding late fee. If we don't have an incentive for people to matriculate, then the school cannot do short, medium and long-term financial planning and educational planning. Since matriculation process brings no cost up front, the school needed to understand the potential enrollment scenario for August.
9. Question: the psychological shock of what social distancing will do to our children. The reality for kids to go back to school with the potential new requirement (face masks, hugging, kissing, gloves, etc.). The world will not be the same when they go back to school. We will need to prepare kids for the "new" normal.

Condor Activities and Reimbursement Process and Concerns

1. People can still request reimbursement for condor activities if they haven't assisted to the classes during this time.
2. Question: when will bikes/skates be able to be picked up. The date was given and then reversed because of safety and security concerns. Dr Habegger will follow up to schedule a new date.

Binationals and CWW Refunds

1. CNG is working with Aviator and other vendors to be reimbursed. There will be reimbursement.

Physical Education and Activities During Covid-19: The school will work with PE and coaches to increase voluntary options for additional physical activity for students of all ages.

Tech Equipment Home Loan Process for Students Lacking Devices: The school will consider options for laptops for distance learning for those families that need it.

Reimbursements and CNG's Financial Stability/Sustainability in this Crisis

1. CNG's financial aid request has not increased significantly to date. CNG will support families and understands it will be a fluid issue in the months ahead for parents.
2. CNG is prepared for multiple scenarios to ensure financial stability. The CNG plans to have 100% staffing. CNG's financial situation and reserve fund allows us to provide employment for all, including the most vulnerable population of general services.
3. The request to donate half or all of the food/transportation refund was confusing to parents. It was not because general service workers were not receiving salaries. It was just an extra donation for the school to allocate additional funds. About 25% of families donated to either the Hogar or to General Services to support those groups.
4. CNG is honoring all 3rd-party contracts (transportation, security, maintenance, groundskeeping, etc.). All employees are being paid in order to provide those families with income and health insurance under these challenging times.
5. The Board and Admin are in discussions as to find the best solution for next year with respect to charging for transportation and cafeteria if we are in a distance learning scenario.
6. How is the budget and plans for new building construction being affected by COVID? Two months ago, CNG began the process of summer work orders, capital investments, and infrastructure support. They prioritized and created a tiered approach, including facilities investment focusing primarily on safety and technology. Only tier 1 items will continue forward. As a result, CNG is focused on building its reserve fund for families in need and other contingencies.

Summer School and Extended Learning Options for Students

1. The CNG is working at every building level for potential remediation or continued learning over the summer. CNG is not really in a situation as a school to provide CNG-driven summer school programs. CNG will provide external options for summer learning, but it provide it directly because every employee contract gets liquidated at the end of school. There has to be a break between contracts for legal purposes.

Recording Classes for Asynchronous Learning Opportunities

1. CNG will see if that can be done for classes and parents to reconnect with a lesson at a later date if needed.

Michelle Beda, K4
Francesca Polanco, 1st
Andrea Escruceria, 3rd
Catalina Pelaez, 5th
Maria Fernanda Correa, 7th
Alexandra Crump, 9th
Margarita Rivera, 11th

Eric Marcelo, K5
Daniela Fina, 2nd
Luis Alejandro Lara, 4th
Helena De Brigard, 6th
Maria Cecilia Escallón, 8th
Evelyn Akerman, 10th
Maria Angélica De Brigard, 12th (President)