



Dear SSEDS families,

I hope this finds you and your families safe and sound. Our Board of Trustees alongside our **Health and Wellness Re-Opening** team of experts including members of the medical and public health fields continue to assess on a daily basis our re-opening protocols, scenarios, and the current COVID climate in Miami Dade County. Although we are very fortunate to have the resources, capabilities, and competencies that allow SSEDS to derive creative and effective solutions for the unprecedented challenges schools across the world face, our primary goal is to be responsible with the health and welfare of our students and faculty. Being completely transparent, I have agonized and struggled with what is right for our students all summer long. We must also recognize the complexity of this situation and that it is a moving target. Every time our leadership team and I believe we have everything in place, we are hit with a curve ball that is completely out of our control, forcing us to re-evaluate the decision-making process. I know that what is best for our students emotionally is to be physically on campus with their teachers and their peers. However, we cannot, in all good conscience, do this at this time with the high rate of COVID cases and devastating effects here in Miami Dade County and frankly in other states, as well. We will open school this year with SSEDS Remote Learning. Our promise is to re-evaluate our decision every two weeks and are ready to pivot and have our students physically on campus when we feel it is the responsible thing to do.

During SSEDS Remote Learning it will be critical for each student to have their materials. We will have a Learning Kick-Off Day to allow our students to meet their small cohort teacher and peers, receive their materials and set-up their IPADS. Remote Learning will officially begin Monday, August 24. Please indicate [here](#) whether your family will be in town for this Learning Kick-Off Day.

Learning Kick-Off Day schedule

Date	Grade Level	Meet Your Teacher	Gate	Dismissal	Gate	Meeting Area
Tuesday, August 18	Grade 5 - Group 1	8:00 - 8:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	8:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Oak Grove
Tuesday, August 18	Grade 5 - Group 2	9:00 - 9:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	9:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Oak Grove
Tuesday, August 18	Grade 5 - Group 3	10:00 - 10:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	10:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Oak Grove
Tuesday, August 18	Grade 5 - Group 4	11:00 - 11:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	11:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Oak Grove
Tuesday, August 18	Grade 4 - Group 1	12:00 - 12:45 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	12:45 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Oak Grove
Tuesday, August 18	Grade 4 - Group 2	1:00 - 1:45 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	1:45 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Oak Grove
Tuesday, August 18	Grade 4 - Group 3	2:00 - 2:45 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	2:45 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Oak Grove
Tuesday, August 18	Grade 4 - Group 4	3:00 - 3:45 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	3:45 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Oak Grove

Date	Grade Level	Meet Your Teacher	Gate	Dismissal	Gate	Meeting Area
Wednesday, August 19	Grade 3 - Group 1	8:00 - 8:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	8:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Oak Grove
Wednesday, August 19	Grade 3 - Group 2	9:00 - 9:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	9:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Oak Grove
Wednesday, August 19	Grade 3 - Group 3	10:00 - 10:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	10:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Oak Grove
Wednesday, August 19	Grade 3 - Group 4	11:00 - 11:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	11:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Oak Grove
Wednesday, August 19	Grade 2 - Group 1	12:00 - 1:45 PM	AIC Entrance	1:45 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Johnston Courtyard
Wednesday, August 19	PK	9:00 - 10:00 AM	Main Highway Lot		AIC Entrance	Drive Through
Thursday, August 20	Grade 2 - Group 2	8:00 - 9:45 AM	AIC Entrance	9:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Johnston Courtyard
Thursday, August 20	Grade 2 - Group 3	10:00 - 11:45 AM	AIC Entrance	11:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Johnston Courtyard
Thursday, August 20	Grade 2 - Group 4	12:00 - 1:45 PM	AIC Entrance	1:45 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Johnston Courtyard
Thursday, August 20	JK	9:00 - 10:00 AM	Main Highway Lot			Drive Through
Friday, August 21	Grade 1 - Group 1	8:00 - 9:45 AM	AIC Entrance	9:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Johnston Courtyard
Friday, August 21	Grade 1 - Group 2	10:00 - 11:45 AM	AIC Entrance	11:45 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Johnston Courtyard
Friday, August 21	Grade 1 - Group 3	12:00 - 1:45 PM	AIC Entrance	1:45 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Johnston Courtyard
Friday, August 21	Grade 1 - Group 4	2:00 - 3:45 PM	AIC Entrance	3:45 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	Johnston Courtyard
Friday, August 21	SK	9:00 - 10:00 AM	Main Highway Lot			Drive Through

SSEDS Remote Learning begins on Monday, August 24

Our [SSEDS Health and Wellness Reopening Plan](#) (Teaching and Learning Scenarios #3) delineates SSEDS Remote Learning. Your child's teacher will communicate the schedule and details to you prior to the start of the school.

- SSEDS provided advanced professional development in technology, best practices for online learning, and unit planning during the summer to enhance the learning experience of students engaging remotely.
- Students will connect for each class remotely as if they were following the regular schedule. Teachers will take attendance for every class on their schedule on a given day.
- Lessons will follow an “I do-We do-You do” approach to encourage independent work time while teachers stay connected for the period to answer questions that may arise. This format allows room for small group and individual instruction.
- [SSEDS Remote Learning Details](#)

Hybrid Model of SSEDS Remote Learning and physical time on campus

When the decision is to welcome our students physically on campus, the following will happen for the first two weeks. We will pivot to a hybrid model of SSEDS Remote Learning and physical time on campus. This plan is thoughtful and conservative and will allow our students to benefit from a small group (8-12 students), in-person instruction without compromising the health, safety, and well-being of our community as a whole. Additionally, it is our intention that this approach will allow us to work toward our ultimate goal of having all our students back on campus full-time during the 2020-21 school year. That said, we will use best practices as established by the CDC and local and national public health officials to decide when it is safe to bring everyone back to campus full-time and will do so once a sustained trend of decreasing rates of transmission in the community is achieved. The faculty and staff leadership team has been hard at work preparing for a robust virtual and physical return to school for our students. Let me share what this will look like:

Grade-Specific First Day of School

Each grade-level will have their first day of school physically on campus, with our social distancing protocols in place, which can be found in our [SSEDS Re-Opening Health and Wellness Procedures](#). This affords every child the opportunity to meet their teachers, see their classroom, identify with their workspace, receive their materials, and more importantly connect person to person with their peers and their teachers. The [First Day of School Schedule](#) will look like this:

Date	Grade Level	Arrival	Gate	Dismissal	Gate
Monday	Grade 5	8:00 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	3-3:10 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance
Monday	SK	8:15 AM McFarlane	Church/Bell Tower	2-2:10 PM McFarlane	Church/Bell Tower
Tuesday	JK	8:15 AM Main Highway	Main Entrance	2-2:10 PM Main Highway	Main Entrance
Tuesday	Grade 2	8:00 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	3-3:10 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance
Wednesday	PK	8:15 AM Main Highway	Main Entrance	2-2:10 PM Main Highway	Main Entrance
Wednesday	Grade 3	8:00 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	3-3:10 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance
Thursday	Grade 1	8:15 AM McFarlane	Church/Bell Tower	3-3:10 PM McFarlane	Church/Bell Tower
Thursday	Grade 4	8:00 AM McFarlane	AIC Entrance	3-3:10 PM McFarlane	AIC Entrance

SSEDS DOT Day, Make Your Mark – Project-Based Learning

During the hybrid model of SSEDS Remote Learning and physical time on campus, students will actively explore real-world challenges and problems and acquire deeper knowledge in the process. The collaborative nature of projects also reinforces the social-emotional skills that are essential in these unprecedented times. All of the health and safety measures will be in place while students are on campus, and we will have approximately 100 students, staff and faculty present on a given-day which provides us with an even greater opportunity for social distancing. This day on campus will follow the remote learning schedule in structure, and the day will be filled with active learning around a topic, challenge, or phenomenon. Both homeroom and special area teachers on your child(ren)'s assigned day will be involved and on campus.

The following is the DOT Day schedule:

Day	Grade Level	Grade Level
Mondays	Senior Kindergarten	Grade 5
Tuesdays	Junior Kindergarten	Grade 2
Wednesdays	Pre- Kindergarten	Grade 3
Thursdays	Grade 1	Grade 4

*When your child is not physically on campus with their teachers, Remote Learning will take place from home.

*Mondays will be switched to Fridays for SRK and 5th grade when there is no school on a Monday.

SSEDS Remote Learning, ONLY

All families will have this option. This is for families who, for whatever reason, do not feel comfortable sending their child on campus. If you are choosing this option, please fill out this [Remote Learning Only](#) survey by Friday, August 7 for planning purposes.

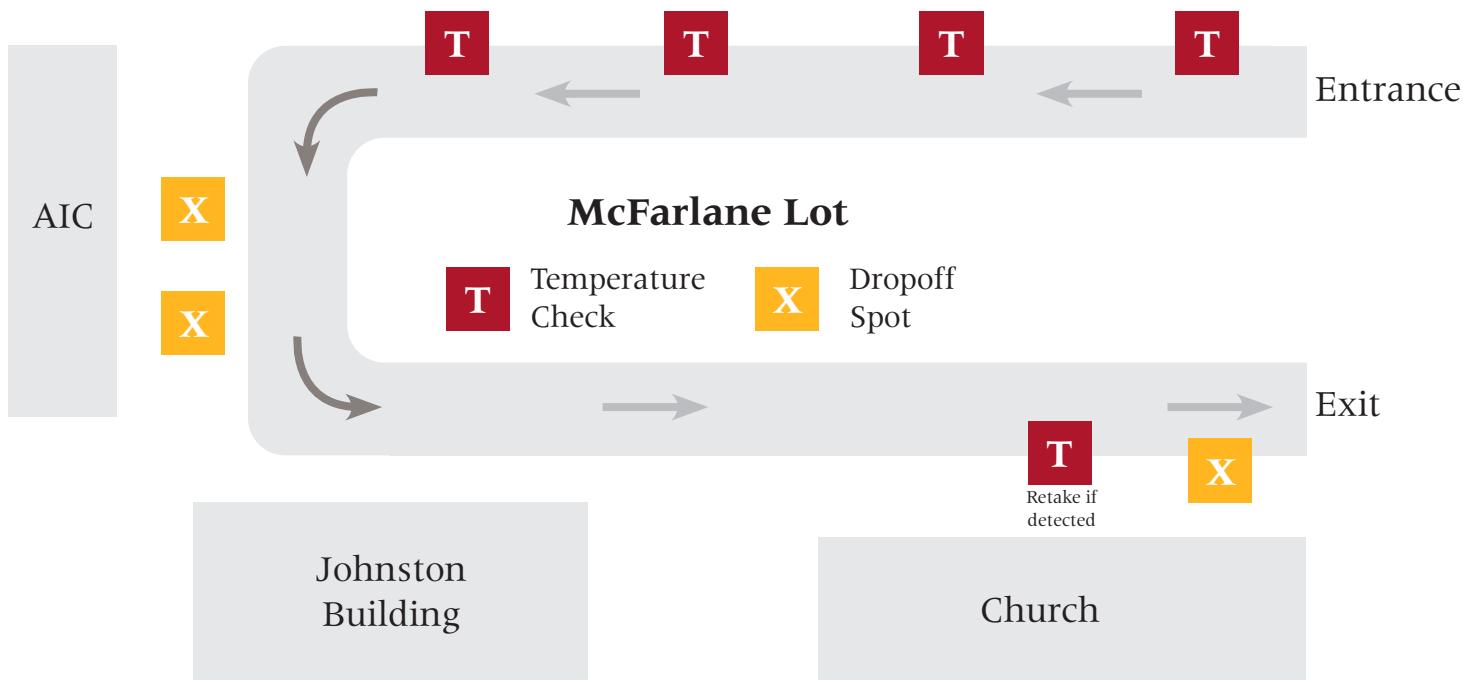
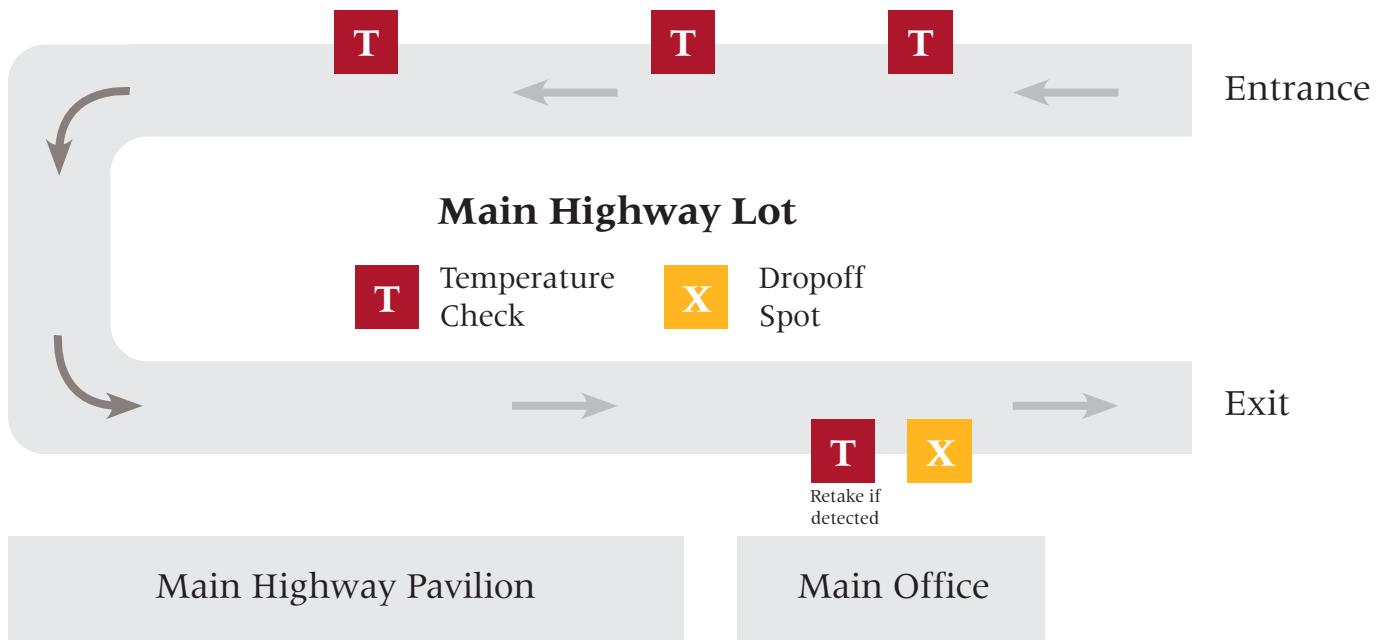
- One learning space in each grade level is equipped with technology to facilitate live remote learning. Students who choose to connect remotely will attend classes via Zoom as part of a collaborative learning community and will be able to ask questions and participate in class discussions as if they were physically present.

Arrival and Dismissal Schedule and Procedures:

- All arrival and dismissal procedures will take place in the car line. Walking/biking/scootering is not permitted at this time. No parents, nannies, or guardians will be allowed on campus.
- Everyone in the car must wear a face mask or shield. Students may not exit the car without properly wearing their masks/shields.
- All students will have their temperature checked prior to exiting their car. If anyone has a temperature of 100.4 or above, no one in the car will attend school that day. (There will be a recheck station later in the line to be sure the thermometer functioned correctly.) No student in the group can return to campus until they have had no fever for 72 hours. We do not recommend carpooling this year.
- Staggered Arrival times and different entrances will facilitate the process as follows:

Time	Grade Level	Parking Lot	Gate
7:30-7:50 AM	Grade 3 Groups 3 & 4	Main Highway	Main Entrance
7:30-7:50 AM	G3 & G5 Groups 1&2 G4 Group 3	McFarlane	Johnston Building Elevator Entrance
7:30-7:50 AM	G4 Group 4 G5 Groups 3&4	McFarlane	AIC Entrance
7:45-8:00 AM	SK Groups 1, 2, 3	McFarlane	Church/Bell Tower
7:45-8:00 AM	SK Group 4	McFarlane	AIC Entrance
7:45-8:00 AM	G1 & G2 Groups 1&2	McFarlane	Church/Bell Tower
7:45-8:00 AM	G1 & G2 Groups 3&4	McFarlane	AIC Entrance
8:15-8:30 AM	PK & JK	Main Highway	Main Entrance

- All students should exit through the passenger side of the car and have all of their belongings with them.
- Students should arrive seated in the order they will disembark. G1-G5 students arrive earlier so they should be in order in the car based on their arrival gate.



- Staggered Dismissal times and different exits will facilitate the process as follows:

Time	Grade Level	Parking Lot	Gate
2:00-2:10 PM	PK	Main Highway	Main Entrance
2:30-2:40 PM	JK	Main Highway	Main Entrance
2:30-2:40 PM	SK Groups 1, 2, 3 G1 Groups 1&2	McFarlane	Church/Bell Tower
2:30-2:40 PM	SK Group 4 G1 Groups 3&4	McFarlane	AIC Entrance
2:45-2:55 PM	G2-G3 Groups 1&2	McFarlane	Church/Bell Tower
2:45-2:55 PM	G2 Groups 3&4	McFarlane	AIC Entrance
2:45-2:55 PM	G3 Groups 3&4	Main Highway	Main Entrance
3:00-3:10 PM	G4 Groups 1, 2, 3 G5 Groups 1&2	Main Highway	Church/Bell Tower
3:00-3:10 PM	G4 Group 4 G5 Groups 3&4	Main Highway	AIC Entrance

- Siblings may remain in their learning space if you want to pick your children up at the same time. They will exit to their Lot and Gate at the oldest sibling's dismissal time unless we hear otherwise from you.
- You will receive a dashboard sign for each Lot and Gate that your children will enter and exit from.
- All Adults and Drivers must remain in their cars with cell phones off once they enter either parking lot.

HERE ARE OTHER KEY DATES TO NOTE:

- Your child's teacher will host a Meet and Greet ZOOM meeting with the class before the start of the school year. Details of schedule, Remote Learning expectations and more will be provided during this session. You will receive an email with a date and time in the coming days.
- Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, August 12** at 8:30 am when we will host our Back to School Welcome ZOOM Meeting. Details to follow.

Words fail to express how excited we all are to welcome you back to school. This year will definitely look different and our promise, our commitment, and our dedication remain the same. Our SSEDS Mission and excellence will not falter even in the face of adversity! We will do everything possible to keep our community safe, and I trust that you will do the same at home. We can only overcome this pandemic by exercising responsibility and taking safety precautions both at school and at home.

I am most grateful for our faculty and staff who have remained loyal and steadfast in our efforts. These are tough times for all, but nothing compares to the weight on our teachers' shoulders, whose love, care, learning, and growth of their students are paramount. Our admiration for each of them must be evident this year more than ever. We are in this together and we will shine through this together, undoubtedly!

As we continue in the days and weeks ahead, I pray for God to grant us all His will, His love, His grace, and His wisdom to conquer a year filled with much success and growth for our students.

Looking forward to the week of August 18 with much enthusiasm.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Silvia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'S' at the beginning.

Head of School
Silvia Larrauri, M.Ed