



July 10, 2020: Our Plans to Safely Reopen in the Fall

Dear CDS Community,

I hope this midsummer's note finds you and your family well. The calendar shows that we are exactly halfway through our CDS summer. Camp is well underway and today is the last day of our first 3-week long session. On days when I have been at school, hearing the sounds of students playing on the yard and laughing in the hallways has been so uplifting and has filled me with hope. After a break next week, camp will begin again on Monday, July 20.

In the past week we have welcomed David Dobson-Smith, taking the reins as our new Lower School Director. DDS, as he is affectionately known, has been meeting with other administrators and getting the lay of the land. DDS has been eager to jump in and get his feet wet right away.

Meanwhile, we have been hard at work planning for a safe re-opening of school – while ensuring the safety of our employees – **on Wednesday, August 26**. Earlier today, I recorded a video which includes more about the details of the reopening plan, and we will send it to you soon. As a follow up, and to answer any questions you may have, I am hosting **a Town Hall next Wednesday, July 15 at 5 p.m.**

After you have watched the video and thought about your own family's situation, if you feel that your family faces hardships because of our re-opening plans, you can provide me with more information by completing a short survey which we will send. We are working hard to meet the needs of all families in this extraordinary moment and appreciate the understanding of the entire community as we prioritize support for essential workers and families whose jobs require out-of-home work.

I'm also happy to include in this note a [draft of the 2020-2021 calendar](#). While we know things have been changing so quickly, it's still reassuring to see this list of dates, knowing that we will be back together again very soon.

I am so grateful to be part of this caring community and I am here to answer questions, or just to be a friendly ear if you would like to talk. Please be safe and stay well!

Warmly,
Shelly