



SEABURYSCHOOL

EDUCATION WITH THE BRAKES OFF

Jan. 12, 2021

Dear Seabury families:

Last week, we shared that we are preparing to reopen our campuses based on the new state guidelines released on Dec. 16. We look forward to bringing our K-5 students back as soon as possible with our middle school students to follow later this winter or early spring.

Preparations are underway to reopen our lower school campus for grades K-5. We have set a tentative start date of Feb. 1 for grades K-3 and Feb. 8 for grades 4-5. The staggered start will allow a smooth transition for kids and allow families to get reacquainted with the systems in place to mitigate the risk of COVID transmission at school. As with all things during a pandemic, these dates are tentative. Families that are not ready to send their child back to campus are welcome to continue with virtual learning. Children who've stayed at home can switch to in-person learning later (and vice versa). Remember for any change, our staff requires a minimum of 24 hours notice to prepare for your child.

Attached [HERE](#) is an updated copy of our Safer Start Plan (SSP) Family Packet, which outlines our health and safety protocols and includes forms families are required to sign **again** and return to school before their student(s) will be allowed on campus. Please read the entire packet carefully. Among other important items, it includes a contract that we enter into as a community – a signed agreement that we will do all we can to protect our staff, students and families from the COVID virus by following all recommended safety protocols.

One thing that gives us confidence as we plan to reopen even with transmission levels higher than when we closed our campuses back in March is that Seabury families continue to demonstrate their commitment to safe behavior. They've also been transparent with the school if there is a potential exposure or the possibility of exposure through travel or family emergencies. We've worked with families and the health department to determine when quarantines were necessary and have supported families with distance-learning programming until children have been able to return to school. This commitment to community will help make it possible to get our students back on campus and keep them there.

If you have a student in grades K-5, it is time to plan ahead to ensure that your child is ready to return to school when our lower school campus opens. As we approach the holiday weekend, remember that the choices you and your family make will impact our ability to open our doors to staff and students in just a few weeks. Even if you have family members who have received the COVID vaccination, health department recommendations and Seabury expectations are that you will continue to follow safety protocols until more of the population has been vaccinated and the health department determines changes in behavior are safe.

We will keep you informed as we move closer to Feb. 1. In the meantime, stay safe, wear masks, socially distance and stay close to home with members of your household. We're all in this together.

**In service,
Sandi Wollum
Head of school**