



Dear Kindergarten and Learning Center Parents,

We are excited to begin the 2020-2021 school year and to have your child be a part of it! As you are checking out our updated calendar, school supply list, and grade school handbook, we wanted to address your COVID-19 related questions and concerns through this letter. Our smaller class size and our Learning Center set up allow us to proceed with a normal school year, but we will be taking extra precautions for the safety of the children. Our program is highly individualized already, which will help create an environment that is safe without being stressful for your child. Please take a look at the additional precautions we will be taking, and feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Our “new normal” health policies will continue. We have already been having parents check temperatures and submit daily health screening forms for some time. This fall, when school starts, the Kindergarten and Learning Center teachers will be doing this themselves when the students arrive. If a child has a temperature over 100.4, they will not be allowed to attend school that day. If you dropped your child off, we will call you to come pick them up in the office. If a student has a temperature over 99.4 at their initial check, they will be checked again later in the morning.

Another notable change in health policy is that, if a student or someone in their household is tested for or diagnosed with COVID-19, the school must be alerted immediately. School will be cancelled the next day for that student’s class for extra sanitation purposes, and the student will be required to provide a doctor’s note to return to school. Since our curriculum is so portable, the teachers will be able to send home assignments to be completed at home if this happens.

A face mask has been added to the school supply list. We will be able to provide a mostly mask-less environment for our students due to the small class size and individual office set up in the Learning Center. However, there will be times when we will have them wear masks to promote safety, when social distancing is more difficult (in choir or on the bus, for example). Teachers will be wearing a mask when they are working one-on-one in close proximity with your child. Our goal is to continue to provide a laid back and stress-free environment for the students, while training them to think about safety when it is sensible to do so.

Social distancing will continue to be a consideration as well. Recess, PE, lunch, and other such times will be handled in a way that maximizes social distancing as much as possible. We will be

very selective about the field trips we choose so that we can ensure safety precautions such as social distancing can be in place wherever we go.

Regarding toys and other such supplies, we will be using individual items instead of communal ones. Students are encouraged to bring toys from home, and the school will be providing some toys for individual play. There will be no sharing of office supplies, either, and teachers will pass out such items as forks, spoons, or paper towels that students normally help themselves to. Each student will need to have their own water bottle as well.

Overall, we are pleased to be able to offer a consistent program for our customers this year, with limited changes considering all that is going on around us in our communities. We thank you for entrusting your children to us, and we look forward to the first day of school!!

Sincerely,

Joel Spencer, Principal Waynesboro

Heather Cheshire, Principal Harrisonburg