



July 15, 2020

Dear Pacific Ridge School,

We are hitting the mid-point of summer, and the campus reopening task force has been hard at work with the goal of providing the PRS community with as much information as we can at this moment. With that in mind, today we are releasing two important sources of information – *Together We Can*, the Pacific Ridge School campus reopening booklet and website.

- **The booklet** – The attached pdf contains much of the information we have right now about the coming school year. It is packaged in one place so that you can print it, read it, mark on it, ask questions of it, whatever you would like. This document is static; it is a snapshot to help you better understand the 2020-2021 Pacific Ridge School experience as we know it to be as of July 15, 2020.
- **The website** – Because much of the information in the document will evolve and more details will emerge, everything in the *Together We Can* document has already been placed on the *Together We Can* website. Going forward, this site will be your source for the most up-to-date information throughout the 2020-2021 school year. We will consistently refer you to it in our communications, but please get in the habit of viewing it from time to time to see what is new. You can access the website [HERE](#).

As you will see, we have planned a fully flexible operating model for the entire school year. We will be able to scale our campus density (number of students on campus) up and down at any time to respond to the current health situation in the county. Therefore, despite recent decisions by some local school districts not to open their campuses immediately in the fall, we have the ability to postpone a final decision about our campus reopening and observe public health conditions as they evolve over the coming weeks.

For now, we will continue to plan as if orientations and the start of school, which are still six and seven weeks away, will take place on campus. In the first week of August we will provide families with an update on our reopening plans. If we are not able to open campus for the beginning of the school year, we will provide information about starting the school year and operating remotely until we can proceed with our campus reopening plan.

### **Upcoming Communications**

You may remember that we are going “quiet” for the last two weeks of July. Truth is, it matters a great deal to the success of the upcoming school year that the people who worked ceaselessly to make sure Pacific Ridge School thrived from March to June and have put even more effort into preparing the school for August through June 2021 have time to step away and recharge. We all do. So, for the next two weeks, Pacific Ridge will be a little quiet on the communication front. Please do

not expect regular response rates from our staff between now and July 31. However, it won't last long. Here is some of what you can expect.

- **Next Week** – We will release a survey for you to ask questions that will be answered in our series of remote “Ready for School” meetings in August. Carefully reviewing the *Together We Can* materials is good preparation for filling out the survey.
- **“Ready for School” Series** – For three Mondays in August, we will hold Zoom sessions for our families. Each session will take place at 5:30 PM. Links will be sent before the events. Here is the schedule:
  - **August 3** – Health, Safety, Risk Levels, Operations
  - **August 10** – Classroom Experience, Co-Curriculars, Student Life
  - **August 17** – Getting ready to start (details!)
- **Community and Inclusion Work** – Later this week, Susan Woods (Director of Community and Inclusion) will share a letter detailing the work being done in this area and opportunities to learn and get involved
- **Upper School Co-Curricular Survey** – As a result of the way the weekly schedule has to run this year, we need to collect student preferences for co-curricular programming (i.e. clubs and Service Learning programs) before the opening of the school year. Information on this (and a survey) will be released later this week.
- **Student Schedules and “Typical” getting ready for school materials** –
  - Magnus Checklist of “Back to School” items will be released at the end of this week.
  - Student schedules will be released the first week of August.

And, of course, you can expect the usual array of back-to-school communications (including the use of our new information system, Veracross) to occur in their regular cadence.

While the 2020-2021 school year may not be the one any of us expected, I can tell you that our team and our entire community is committed to making it a memorable, valuable, and important opportunity for growth and development for our students – and all of us. Thank you for being part of it.

With excitement (actually!),



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