



Dear Journey Families and Community Members,

The end of 2019-2020 marked the beginning of a historic period due to COVID-19. As we still find ourselves adjusting to the continued pandemic, our continued goal is to make decisions with the health and safety of students, staff, and the community at the forefront of plans for the 2020-2021 school year.

Much has been learned in the last several months as we reflected on experiences in the spring, considered feedback from parents and the community, and followed data locally and nationally. The school's policies and procedures are informed by local, state, and national agencies, and best practices for school environments to keep students and staff safe and healthy.

The 2020-2021 school year will begin in a distance learning mode. According to current trends and professional guidance, there is an expectation that the school will be in a distance learning mode until mid-October. Starting the school year in a distance learning environment is not what anyone would have chosen (under normal circumstances). The school, administration, teachers, and therapists will continue to be dedicated to providing a wrap-around approach to meeting each student's and families' individual needs.

The first day of school will be Monday, August 17, and the school calendar will remain the same. As the summer comes to an end, there will be additional details regarding the distance learning schedule, attendance, and grading policy. We understand the strain that the distance learning environment places on each family unit, and we will be flexible to accommodate each family as much as possible.

The below chart details the resources and criteria used to make decisions for moving to on-campus instruction. There will be more information about each stage as we get closer to making the decisions to change learning mode.

Mode of Learning		Distance Learning	Face to Face instruction with restrictions, staggered schedule, and distance learning	Face to Face instruction without restrictions
Resources Used to Determine the mode of Learning		Criteria for Deciding Model of Learning		
Community Transmission	TMC Greater Houston Case Count	7 Day Positive Average Growth Rate	Holding or decreasing for greater than or equal to 14 days	Stable or Decreasing
Community Data/Spread	Harris County Reopening Strategy	Level 1-Stay Home (Severe Threat) Level 2-Minimize All Contacts (Significant Threat)	Level 3-Stay Vigilant (Moderate Threat)	Level 4-Resume Normal Activity (Minimal Threat)

We appreciate your continued patience and support throughout this process. Although we will not start the school year under ordinary circumstances, it does not minimize the team's excitement to get back to school.

Best regards,

Jeanette Salinas