



Boston, August 7, 2020

Dear GISB community,

As promised, here is an update with information about what our taskforce has been doing and is working on. I also thought it would be constructive to give you a form of a roadmap of what will happen over the next couple of weeks and days until the official school start at GISB on August 26.

In the previous twenty-four hours our Section Heads have each provided you with an individualized, general overview of the concepts regarding the re-opening of each of our campuses – and also an detailed outline in the case of our Lower Campus.

Some of the key elements that our GISB is working for:

- The LC will be back with in-person teaching five days a week. In order to protect both our students and staff this will be achieved by having small groups or clusters which will be kept separated from each other to lower any risk to an absolute minimum. Thorough hygiene and health and safety protocols are, and will be followed at all times.
- The return to school for the UC will see a hybrid-system in place which will ensure safety for students and staff with regard to physical numbers present in the building, while giving the opportunity for important in-person teaching for every student. Limiting the numbers of students in the building is an unavoidable necessity at this time, again to ensure maximum student and staff safety. The remote learning system that we have been so successful with during the lockdown will now be applied to our students in the hybrid system on those days when they are not on campus. When in the school building, again, strict health and hygiene rules will be in place, including the compulsory wearing of a mask indoors and where physical distancing is not possible. Everyone entering the building will be required to complete a daily online questionnaire before being allowed in. Following these health and hygiene rules and requirements is going to be critical for the health and safety for everyone concerned and it really cannot be emphasized enough with regard to keeping our school building open and running.
- Parents at both campuses will be given an individual day-by-day choice as to whether to bring their children to school for in-person-teaching. In ES, MS and HS students will switch to a remote learning system with live broadcasting of the lessons when not in the building for any

personal reason. The LC will also be offering learning opportunities for those who are not on the campus.

Our general roadmap for the next weeks:

- This past week we finished and published a detailed LC information document for parents. This coming week we will follow up with one for the UC. Please recognize that both of these are not written in stone and will need possible adjustments with any and all new information which we receive from the city and state authorities, once they have been published. We ask you to be patient with us in this regard and we will inform you naturally of any alterations, which are necessary due to changed regulations, immediately.

- The week starting with August 17 will see preparation and staff training for being back in the classrooms, every-day-routines like drop-off- and pick-up-procedures, emergency procedures, detailed and updated health-and-safety procedures and protocols. Our staff will be back on campus in shifts for this training as we do our best to ensure a smooth and safe start into the school year. We will also finalize our campus preparations in this week and provide more information about every-day-procedures for you.

- The last days (Aug 24 and Aug 25) we will finalize our preparations and final training and share any last details on planning with you.

It is a challenging time and the situations have to be evaluated as we go along. I would like to thank our staff and the parents again for their on-going work in the taskforce on behalf of the school. This is truly a community effort, where staff, parents, administration and the leadership team are working together.

I would also like to thank you for your understanding as we work towards the successful reopening of our GISB for the academic year of 2020/2021.

Best wishes,

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