

07.10.20

Dear Paramount Academy Community,

Good morning and thank you for continuing to reach out to us with your questions and input; they have incredible value and help drive us to ensure the best 2020-2021 school year possible. Since our last correspondence, much has changed in terms of returning to school, the most important school-based news being Governor Ducey postponing Arizona's schools from opening their campuses to students until August 17th.

We are writing to you today to let you know that our expected first day of school continues to be Monday, August 3rd, but at least the first few weeks will be delivered virtually through our Microsoft Teams platform that was used to deliver the 4th quarter of instruction last year. For those of you who may be new to Paramount, each student will be given a Microsoft account (returning students will use the same login credentials as last year) which will be used to interact with their teachers throughout the school day. This instructional delivery system will be the primary method of school-based engagement until the leaders in our State allow students back on campus. Though this is not the way we envisioned any school year beginning, especially those of you with brand new Kindergartners eager to attend school, we are confident in our abilities to begin the year delivering engaging lessons virtually. We will also be providing packets on a weekly basis for those who do not have or have limited access to a computer or internet during this time.

Lastly, our Board is meeting next week to discuss and update policies and procedures for when students return to campus. These policies and procedures will be a part of Paramount's reopening plan that will be shared with staff and families in the next few weeks. While we acknowledge that in-person schooling is not available until at least August

17th, we are working to ensure families are confident about sending their children to Paramount when that re-opening date is given. It is our opinion, based on current online learning data in the areas of academic and social growth, that educating students in a school environment is the best arena to develop and cultivate growth academically, socially, and emotionally. It is our sincerest hope that August 17th will be that date.

Again, thank you for all you have done in the last four months; we speak to all members of the Paramount Community: staff, students, spouses, partners, and family members, there is no way to properly thank you for what you have done during this pandemic. Instead, we hope when we do meet again, we can show you that these efforts were worth the wait.

Sincerely,

Paramount Academy Administration and Board of Directors