

June 25, 2020



Dear ASA Families,

We hope you are staying well. As you can imagine, we have been deep in planning for the opening of school in August. Our School Leaders and Board of Directors have met and reviewed options for a safe return to school, and we have been communicating and collecting feedback from our faculty, staff, students and families. Before we head into July, we wanted to give you an update as to where we stand. First, no final decisions about how we will return to school have been made because our environment is changing rapidly. We are preparing for BOTH online learning and a hybrid schedule combining some on-line and some in person learning in a way that allows us to be flexible to meet the health and safety needs of our students, families and faculty.

Last week we asked for your participation in a family survey to provide input as we continue to develop our plans for our return to school in August. You responded promptly- thank you! In addition to a family survey, we conducted staff and student surveys in order to gather a variety of perspectives and feedback to ensure our plans incorporate all stakeholders' considerations. Through the survey process, we heard suggestions and questions as people used the survey to express their concerns about COVID 19's impact on our students and teachers for this upcoming school year.

In order to be transparent with our planning and preparations, we share with you the following:

- summative data from the three different stakeholder surveys (families, faculty, and student)
- two instructional models for the fall (100% online or hybrid- on campus days + digital days)
- safety/ health precautions
- next steps

In an effort to be as clear as possible, we present this information in two ways. You can review the powerpoint with no verbal explanation, or you can listen to a recorded call that explains the powerpoint slides in more detail. We hope that by providing two different mediums, families can access in the way that works best for their needs.

The powerpoint is attached to this email; [here](#) is the link to the recorded call.

ASA is also investing substantial resources in building adequate technology resources for our students. Using a federal grant and budget savings from this year, we will have chromebooks for every student - whether on or off campus - and we have woven into next year's budget additional software and hardware to enhance online learning and performing arts education. Students may be carrying assigned chromebooks between school and home. Our faculty has been involved in a variety of training this summer to boost their skills in creating online curriculum and best instructional practices.

With the changing conditions of COVID, it is prudent to reassess both COVID conditions in Arizona as well as stakeholder perspectives at the end of July. We will send out a third round of surveys the week of July 20 to gather input. Please look for that survey and respond by the deadline. This data will inform our next COVID decision point on July 27. While we anticipate making a determination at that time on how we will start school, we will also be ready to pivot to between on campus and on-line scenarios if COVID circumstances change.

The school office is closed now through July 21 to provide ASA personnel some time for some rest and restoration. We hope our families are also finding ways to practice self-care during this time. We look forward to reconnecting with you with the start of the new school year.

Stay well,

Leah Fregulia
CEO/ Head of School

Sara Maline Bohn
Principal

PowerPoint Slide Deck: [Fall Planning & C-19 updates for families](#)