

August 13, 2020

TCDS Students and Families:

These past few months have brought great uncertainty into our lives. The COVID-19 global pandemic has impacted every corner of society, prompting families, schools, and businesses to adapt. Thanks to the efforts of so many staff, family members, and students, TCDS has been able to adapt to the circumstances and successfully launch into this unprecedented, 2020-2021, school year!

The Arizona Department of Health Services has provided K-12 schools with health benchmarks (found [here](#)) designed to assist schools in deciding when to reopen in-person, teacher-led instruction. Following a review of these benchmarks, the **TCDS School Board has decided to reopen in-person, teacher-led instruction, to start the second quarter, on Monday, October 19th.**

This decision was made using two guiding principles:

1) Student and staff health and safety

Student and staff health and safety is paramount. An October 19th start date gives adequate time for the three identified health benchmarks to be met, given they continue trending in the right direction.

2) Timing in the school calendar

An October 19th start date allows for consistency in how students learn throughout the entirety of the first quarter. The timing also provides an opportunity to adjust schedules and cohorts for the second quarter based on where families choose to have their children learn, as remote learning will continue to be an option for families all school year.

In-person, teacher-led learning on October 19th does not mean school is “back to normal.” Rather, it will be the first step in this direction. Students will continue to need a computer and will do some learning online while on campus, along with receiving various forms of instruction from their teacher(s) on campus.

Coupled with this decision, we look to expand our on-site, student support services program to allow more students on campus who NEED a place to learn prior to October 19th. Information will be sent to families in the coming days.

On behalf of the TCDS Administration and School Board, thank you for entrusting your child with Tucson Country Day School. We appreciate your continued partnership.

Regards,

Jordan Krause
Principal / COO