

July 23, 2020

Dear Kindergarten Discovery Families:

I hope this communication finds you well and that you enjoyed a safe, healthy and fun summer break. For our youngest Swamp Owls, school is set to begin on Monday, August 10 & 11. Discovery has partnered with Ochsner Healthcare Safe Return to Schools Team. They are providing resources that will help us maintain safe campuses for all students, faculty, and staff.

## **ONLINE STUDENTS:**

Thank you to the students who signed up for online learning. Our Discovery online program was so popular that the slots are filled, and the online school is full. Dr. Kennedy and I will be messaging you soon about an online calendar and procedures for technology pick-up. We are also planning a meet and greet for your students and their online teacher(s). We have a good plan for your children. Your family will be part of an exciting pilot program for Discovery schools to possibly offer an online school in our future. We will count on your input during the year to improve our outcomes and operations. We have done a lot of research about successful online schools and look forward to this year-long challenge. We are excited to offer a rigorous, creative online Discovery education. Stay tuned for more information.

The remaining portion of this message is for our on-campus students.

## **ON-CAMPUS STUDENTS:**

All on-campus students will be assigned to a static pod (classroom), and we will refer to the pods as either Group 1 or Group 2. All static pods will be 13-18 students spaced 6' apart to the extent possible. This grouping will be used at various times throughout the school year. All on-campus students will have co-curricular subjects (music, art, PE, etc.).

As stated in the previous parent letter, all on-campus students will begin the year with a slow and staggered start during the month of August. Your child will come to school on either August 10 or 11 for a 1 hour and 45 minute visit. Starting on August 12, your child will attend every other day until 12:45. (according to Group 1 or Group 2 assignments). Starting

September 8, your child will begin to attend school every day for full days. Considering the wellness of our Discovery campuses.

The reasons for the slow and staggered start are:

- 1. Administration monitors our own community health and wellness as we return to campuses slowly
- 2. Students get to know their teachers and teacher expectations
- 3. Students receive technology equipment
- 4. Students learn to log into classes virtually and to be an active participant in online learning.
- 5. Students learn and practice all new health and wellness routines:
  - a. Temperature checks before boarding bus and/or entering school building
  - b. Washing hands every 2 hours
  - c. Maintaining 6' physical distance
  - d. Wearing masks for extended periods of time

Kindergarten Student Schedule (KDHSA & DJOD)					
DATE	Length of Day	SCHEDULE			
Monday, Aug. 10 Tuesday, Aug. 11	1 hr. 45 min.Testing window - Time of visit to be sent by school principal.	Each student will be assigned a 1 hour & 45 minute window to come to school.  Priority:  1. To gather baseline data on current performance in reading and math.  2. To learn safe entry and exit routines.			
Aug 12-14	Early Dismissal	Group 1 - M, W, F	Group 2- T, TH		
Aug. 17-21	Early Dismissal	Group 1- T, TH	Group 2 - M, W, F		
Aug. 24-28	Early Dismissal	Group 1 - M, W, F	Group 2- T, TH		
Aug. 31-Sep 4	Early Dismissal	Group 1- T, TH	Group 2 - M, W, F		
Sep. 8	Full Day	Kindergarten starts attending school daily.			

## **Kindergarten Arrival & Dismissal Times**

Aug 10th - Sept 4th						
Campus	Bus Arrival	Carpool Arrival	Bus Dismissal	Carpool Dismissal		
Maine	7:45	8:05		12:45		
DJOD	7:45	8:05		12:45		
Starting Sept. 8th						
Maine	7:45	8:05	3:00	3:20		
DJOD	7:45	8:05	3:00	3:15		

Due to COVID-19, our plans are fluid and have changed daily. Thank you for your patience as we plan the safest and best education for your children this school year.

With an Appreciative HEART,

Dr. Glaser Head of School Kenner Discovery Health Sciences Academy Dr. John Ochsner Discovery Health Sciences Academy