

July 31, 2020

Good Afternoon ISAAC Family,

This week, the Connecticut State Department of Education and the Commissioner of Education in collaboration with the Governor's Office released guidance to school districts in choosing their reopening plan. The flexibility that was provided to school leaders was to choose the plan that makes sense for their current conditions and building space. Over the next few weeks, leaders within each district and charter school will be faced with the difficult task of choosing the most appropriate plan that takes into account the current health data of its community, the responses from families and staff, and the realities that exist in the school building. During these times, we must understand that this decision could change with minutes, hours, or days. The fluidity of our reopening plan is critical.

Using the information and data gained from the multiple surveys, committees, and conversation with our ISAAC stakeholders for the past month, **ISAAC will begin the school year in its PLAN B: Hybrid Instructional Model.** This plan allows students to learn in an environment where desks are over the distance suggested by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Under the Hybrid Instructional Model (Plan B), all ISAAC students will experience a combination of in-person learning in the school building with their teachers and classmates and online instruction through an online platform. Students will be assigned to either an 'A' Day or 'B' Day group and a cohort number (1, 2, 3, 4, etc.). Siblings will be in the same group (A Day or B Day) that are in the same grade or on the same day for different grades. Groups will attend school in an ongoing rotation by attending school in an A/B alternating day during the week with Wednesday designated for remote learning. Students assigned to 'A Day' will attend school in-person on Mondays and Thursdays while 'B Day' students will attend school in-person on Tuesdays and Fridays. All students and staff will still be required wear a face mask covering their mouth and nose throughout the day. Please see page 13 in the ISAAC Reopening Guide for more information on the Hybrid Instructional Model.

By deciding the plan for in-person instruction today, our teachers, staff, and Reopening of School Team can begin to develop and plan accordingly for the reopening of ISAAC. In addition, our school calendar has been adjusted to provide our staff with additional professional development and training days prior to the start of the school year. The first day of school for all in-person, A Day student will be on Monday, August 31, 2020 and for B Day students will be on September 1, 2020.

Attached to this email is an extremely important parent/guardian survey from the Reopening of School Team that must be **completed by Monday, August 3, 2020.** The urgency for this survey comes from the state who is requiring us to provide specific information to them next week. This information is critical so that we can guarantee that every family has internet connection throughout any of the plans described in our Reopening Guide. Families who do not complete this survey by Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> will not be eligible for free internet service at the student's place of residence(s). In addition, this survey allows us to accurately determine which students will be choosing to attend in-person or remotely.

As a reminder, all ISAAC families have the option to choose the Remote Learning Academy (Plan C) for their student. For families choosing Plan C, they must complete the Remote Learning Academy form by August 7, 2020.

We promise to continue to work hard in ensuring that a healthy and productive learning and working environment for all students and staff at ISAAC. Your cooperation and feedback has been greatly appreciated.

Wishing you and your family the best of health!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Spera', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dr. Nicholas J. Spera  
*Executive Director*

*We believe that all students can succeed with hard work and grit.*