



This document is intended to be a living document and will be updated regularly based on new information, requirements, and insights.

**COVID PLANNING COMMITTEE  
UPDATED SEPTEMBER 16, 2020**

# **REOPENING PLAN 2020**

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Planning for a new school year during such uncertain times comes with challenges, but we, as a school, remain anchored in our goals—keeping our students engaged, challenged, and our entire community safe and connected.

The social-emotional wellbeing of every person in our school community is at the forefront of our planning process. We believe this plan allows us to move into the school year in person while upholding state, local, and federal requirements and other essential safety guidelines. The plan includes:

- A phased approach. In rapidly changing circumstances, we have put in place policies and procedures that account for Miami’s reopening phases as we progress through the pandemic.
- Prioritizing preparedness. Effective safety planning begins with the idea that we can face any crisis with equanimity when we have taken the time to prepare. Just as we conduct fire drills with a positive, compassionate, and mindful presence to reduce fear and anxiety in our students, our current circumstances require thoughtful planning, training, and preparation.
- Planning for agility. The uncertainty and ever-changing nature of our current reality requires our plan to be nimble—reducing jarring transitions for students, parents, and teachers, and allowing us to mobilize engaged learning regardless of what is happening in the world around us.

# REOPENING CONSIDERATIONS

Knowing that guidance and requirements from public health officials and governing agencies change all the time, we will modify these details as needed to stay in compliance with local rules.

## **Arrival and Dismissal: Preschool Campus, 4136 N Miami Ave**

Arrival and dismissal will be staggered at each campus. For students in the PK2, PK3, PK4, Kinder, and Pre-1<sup>st</sup> classes, beginning October 5<sup>th</sup>, families will be assigned a specific Arrival and Dismissal time based on their child's age.

<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Arrival Times</b>	<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Dismissal Times</b>
PK2 & PK3	8:00am	PK2 & PK3	3:00pm
PK4	8:20am	PK4	3:20pm
Kinder & Pre-1	8:40am	Kinder & Pre-1	3:40pm

To keep our traffic down during these important times, we ask families to stick to their assigned times.

After care and after school activities (including athletics) begin at 4pm on the Preschool Campus.

## **Arrival and Dismissal: 1 NE 19<sup>th</sup> St Campus**

For students in grades 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, arrival and dismissal on campus is staggered and extended to space out the number of students arriving at the building at the same time.

For students in 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades, arrival is open from 8:00-8:30am and dismissal is open from 3:30-4:00pm.

For students in 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades, arrival is between 8:30-9:00am and dismissal is from 3:45-4:00pm.

## **Temperature Checks and Arrival Protocol**

All students, staff, and visitors will have temperature screened upon arrival. If an individual has a temperature over 100.5°, she/he will not be allowed into class. She/he may come back for a second screening after waiting 10 minutes, and multiple thermometers may be used to ensure accuracy. If the individual does not pass the screening, she/he will not be allowed into class and must return home.

Upon arrival, all students, staff, and visitors will transition to indoor shoes before proceeding into classroom areas and hallways.

## **In-Class Experience**

Class sizes will return to normal when our students who chose to bring online transition back to in-person on October 5<sup>th</sup>. The maximum class size is 20, and in many cases will be below that limit.

To limit the number of transitions, exposure to new classrooms and teachers, and movement in hallways, we are moving to a block schedule for the 2020-2021 school year. Students will have four class blocks each day, of 80 minutes each. Monday and Wednesday will follow one set of classes, and Tuesday and Thursday the second set of classes. One of the blocks each day will be split between a specials class and PE (40 minutes each). The block schedule also facilitates an easier transition back to virtual if local ordinances require it. Friday will include PE, dabble time, and electives.

*For example*, an elementary student may have Math, Science, Spanish, ½ block of Art (40 minutes), and ½ block of PE (40 minutes) on Monday/Wednesday and then English, Social Studies, Italian, ½ block of Music, and ½ block of PE on Tuesday/Thursday.

## **Face Coverings and Physical Distance**

State and local ordinances will guide our procedures around physical distancing and masks.

## **Water and Other Shared Services**

Students will bring reusable water bottles from home. The school has invested in filtered water bottle filling stations for both school buildings.

## **Recess**

Recess will take place daily. When outdoor recess is not possible due to weather, students will have recess in indoor play areas.

## **Technology**

Students in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up will use individually assigned Chromebooks. Students in 2nd grade and under will have class sets of devices to use at school.

In addition to the new hardware, we have deployed new learning platforms and made significant investments in instructional technology to support both our in-person students and online program. In using this technology from the beginning of the school year, any required transition to online programs will be easier for students and families.

Our [new school portal](#) is a one-stop place for all assignments, grades, communications, news, lesson plans, and family directory.

## **Social-Emotional Wellbeing**

The school's commitment to embedding mindfulness across the curriculum and supporting the grit, resilience, and social-emotional wellbeing of our students is never more important than in today's world. Our schedules will still include dedicated time to mindfulness, as well as having the principles of mindful education embedded in all subjects, whether they are taught online or in person.

Another exciting technology investment we have made for our students' and employees' wellbeing is an online, anonymous reporting tool designed to eliminate bullying, cyberbullying, and to give every stakeholder in our community a way to report unacceptable behavior anonymously. The platform allows our

school counselor or administrators to easily identify false reports and to message (still anonymously) with people who make a report to gather evidence and complete investigations. The new school counselor will be available to students both in person and in the online program.

### **Lunch**

Depending on the phase of reopening, lunch may be served in individual portions or family style.

### **Visitors on Campus**

Depending on the phase of reopening, we may limit the total number of visitors allowed in the building during school hours. The school is adding a new, robust visitor management system that includes background screening of external guests.

### **Facility Improvements & Cleaning**

Both of our school campuses have been outfitted with whole-building UV filtration systems on the HVAC, and this significant investment, in addition to multiple freestanding electrostatic filters in common areas, eliminates over 99% of bacteria, viruses, and other organic compounds from the air we breathe.

The school capacity at the 19<sup>th</sup> Street building is 900 students, and we currently have about 200 students committed for 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade. This extra capacity gives us the luxury of spreading out, having extra classroom space, and not having to worry about overcrowding.

The 41<sup>st</sup> Street building capacity is 200 students, and we currently have about 80 students committed for PK2 through Pre-1<sup>st</sup>. Again, the luxury of this capacity is that we can spread out and have extra classroom space as needed.

Our cleaning crews have been trained in the CDC cleaning and sanitizing protocol, and we have accountability measures in place to be sure everything is properly cleaned and sanitized. We added additional staff to our cleaning crews this September.

**For more information on...**

**Contact**

**Preschool**

Grades PK2 - Pre-1st

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Grades 6-8

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