



Dear Community School Family,

I trust you are well, and that you are enjoying a good start to the summer. I mentioned to teachers in a meeting this week that my sense of time has been warped; it seems like summer has been under way for a long time, but we are still only in late June! This has been a full week, with an all-faculty meeting, a health and safety meeting, and a distance learning meeting. A few updates:

Health Forms:

It will be more important than ever for families to provide the school with the usual health information for your children. Please see [here](#) for a letter from Trish Reeb, the school nurse. If you haven't already, you should make appointments now to get your children in to their health care provider for a checkup and shots. The [online health form](#) can be found here.

At Home Learning:

As you will recall, we have a Distance Learning Task Force working on modifying our distance learning program in the event schools are closed by the county. The core of this group's task is twofold: First, to ensure that students are benefiting from a Community School education whether they are at school or at home. Second, we plan to standardize the experience across grades and subjects so that families do not need to juggle differing online platforms or programs if they have multiple children in the school.

There is an important additional benefit as well. Because students will need to stay home if they are sick, a robust at-home learning program will provide an important way for students to remain engaged with their classes, moving forward educationally even from home. In order to improve our capabilities in this area, the school will be investing in cameras for classrooms that will allow students to log in and see the entire class in action, not just thumbnails in applications such as Zoom. Our goal is to have this system installed, and teachers trained, by the time we return in August.

Additionally, Community School has purchased additional laptops; as of August, every Upper Division student will have a specific laptop assigned to him/her and will not be sharing it with any other student. This will help with scheduling for teachers/instruction, and make it easier for us to enforce good sanitation procedures. It also allows the school to check out a laptop to each Upper Division student if we have to shift to distance learning.

Please note that this is not indicative of a philosophical shift. We are taking this step to help us more safely educate students here at school, and ensure they have a computer at home if needed during distance learning.

Additional Health/Safety School Upgrades:

We are moving forward with upgrades to all of our bathroom facilities, with an eye to making them as touch-free as possible. Toilets, faucets, and soap and paper towel dispensers will all be converted to touchless operation. Additionally, we will be installing additional water bottle filling stations throughout the buildings wherever possible. Traditional drinking fountains will not be available.

We believe that these investments will mitigate health and safety risks to our students and provide an improved backbone for distance learning should we need to implement it. And please don't forget to make appointments with your family's healthcare provider; good preventative care will help keep students in school, and protect the safety of all members of Community School.

Have a wonderful weekend, and as always please let me know if you have any questions.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob'. The letters are stylized and connected, with a large 'B' and a smaller 'o' and 'b'.

Bob Cooke | Head of School