July 2, 2020

Dear Families,

We are excited to share that PSP has developed a general plan to reopen schools that will provide students face to face instruction in our school buildings and online learning for some or all of the time for the upcoming school year. Our plans are in collaboration with the Department of Health, the Mayor’s Office, and the Public Charter School Board.

Each family will need to complete the survey linked below to state your preference and submit by July 15th.  www.pspdc.org/learn/

There are two choices we would like families to select from for the first quarter of school (August 31 - November 6). All choices will offer all students new instructional content, attendance will be mandatory and student work will be graded. The choices are:

A. **Full-time online instruction.** Virtual, interactive instruction provided five days a week with daily attendance.

OR

B. **Full time in-person instruction** at PSP in small classroom settings aligned with health and safety guidance as determined by the department of health up to 5 days a week. Due to space available at PSP and depending on numbers, we anticipate being able to accommodate all students five days a week but may have to pursue a blended schedule depending on demand. We will work to serve students in person as many days as possible.

All families must submit their preferences by July 15th. August 1st is PSP’s target date to confirm in-person/virtual student schedules.
Additionally, this survey will give families the option to request Before and Aftercare for the 20-21 school year. While this program will likely be smaller than last year we will prioritize continued free before and aftercare for as many students as we can safely serve. Priority will go to essential workers who submit work schedules and then first come first serve as we have availability.

Please know that our first preference remains 100 percent in-person learning. However, based on current health data, that seems uncertain by Monday, August 31, the first day of the 2020-21 school year. Even as DC moves closer to Phase 3 of its reopening plan, we will comply with the guidance provided by the state and the CDC for the safe reopening of schools. In developing this plan, our first priority is the health and well-being of our students and staff.

Social and physical distancing recommendations in classrooms, buses, and shared spaces are included in the phased reopening guidance from our city and are considered important COVID-19 prevention strategies. Physical distancing limits the number of students and staff who can be inside a school at any one time. Please go to [www.coronavirus.dc.gov](http://www.coronavirus.dc.gov) for more information.

At some point in the future, we expect to move beyond Phase 3 which may allow us to bring everyone back into the school buildings on a full-time, pre-COVID basis. But until that time, we believe the back to school model described in this letter – while not a perfect solution - best addresses the concerns and desires we have heard in surveys and feedback from our families, students, community members, teachers, and staff about reopening schools in a safe and responsible manner.

Please be on the lookout for the survey asking you to state your return to school preference. It’s critical for us to know your choice by July 15 so we can begin planning virtual and in-person class schedules. We anticipate that families will be able to select preferences on a quarterly basis with Q1 ending on November 6.

Thank you for your engagement and involvement with us during this process.