

June 25, 2020

Dear Parents,

We want to take this time to update you on the reopening of school. We have created a COVID-19 committee to work through our mitigation plans that needed to be submitted to the state. This plan was submitted on June 23, 2020 to the Virginia Council of Private Education per the directions from Governor Northam. We have created a comprehensive plan so that we may fully open in August. There will be some changes to basic operation based on the Governor's current guidelines for Phase 3, but we will be able to open with all students grades K-12 on campus every day. Pre K will be reaching out with more information as they receive it.

While we have a mitigation plan in place, we are still working through many of the details. We are currently limiting class section sizes to 18 students. This is necessary at this time to meet social distancing requirements. K-7 classes will be limited to 18 per section. We do have larger areas for high school classes which may exceed the 18 limit due to schedule demands. With some creative use of space, we will be able to follow all social distancing guidelines.

We are still preparing transportation, lunch, and other activity plans. This will require some "out of the box" thinking. Until more information is available on future phases beyond phase 3, visitors, volunteers and large gatherings will need to be limited. Field trips and athletic competitions are currently postponed until we receive further guidance or mandates from the state. Fall athletics may resume conditioning for sports with sanitizing and distancing restrictions at this time.

IWA will release complete details as soon as possible. If Virginia continues to improve its COVID-19 numbers, there may be an even further lessening of restrictions by the Governor's office. While it is true we are a private school, we cannot ignore mandates and executive orders from the Virginia Department of Health or Governor Northam. Ultimately we must meet expectations to remain accredited and keep our students and staff safe.

Please know we are working diligently to reopen school as normally as possible. We hope your summer is going well and you are healthy and we cannot wait to see all of the smiling faces on August 17th.

Sincerely,

Mark Munford

On behalf of the faculty and staff
of Isle of Wight Academy

