

Dear BASIS DC families,

We are writing today to share important news about the 2020-21 school year. **At least through October 5, 2020 (the end of the first grading period), all BASIS DC students will receive 100% of their content-specific instruction online via distance learning.** This decision parallels the decision of DC Public Schools to offer only distance learning through the end of Term 1. Of course, we will continue to abide by public health guidelines and mandates, and will monitor local conditions regarding re-opening our campus for in-person attendance. We will continue to update you, and the next update will be before the first day of school.

The school year **will still begin on Monday, August 24, 2020.** Regardless of the changes, we will continue to deliver the same high-achieving BASIS Charter School Curriculum via intelligent, passionate BASIS Charter School teachers for all of our students.

Here are key components of this distance learning plan:

- Students will have a structured daily schedule following their school schedules using the Microsoft Teams and SPORK platforms.
- Core course teachers in grades 5-8 will have the support of a dedicated team of BASIS Charter School teachers across the network, to ease any additional burdens or time constraints during this unique and unprecedented school year.

We will communicate the specifics about your child's teachers and schedules, and other critical information on August 19, 2020 (which is our scheduled "Back to School Night" date). In the coming days, we will also share with you a survey regarding your students' access to compatible devices and internet.

We heard valuable input from our families, teachers, and staff. Thank you to those of you who completed our survey, the city's family survey, and for those who have participated in the family focus groups, we have had so far. While facing uncertainty, we believe that it is not safe enough to open for in-person instruction at this time.

Once it is safe, we have two other re-opening plans already fully developed. Depending on health guidance, we will either offer either 100% distance learning with two days of in-person support or our 'Families Choose in 2020-21' plan. In the two-day in-person support option, students will get help with distance learning in the building based on an A-day, B-Day cohort model. In the 'Families Choose in 2020-21' plan, families would be able to indicate whether they wish to have students participate in full-time on campus instruction or full-time distance learning; this program is only feasible once local conditions allow for more students in each classroom.

In the meantime, we will continue to communicate with you.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact us. Please stay healthy and safe!

Sincerely yours,

Alexander Rose-Henig
Head of School, BASIS DC

Aaron Kindel
CEO, BASIS.ed

Peter Bezanson
CEO, BASIS Educational Ventures