



Hampton Roads International Montessori School

Re-Entry Plan

2020-2021

RE-ENTRY PLANNING

HRIMS has worked diligently to develop a re-entry strategy that allows for students to attend **5 days per week on campus, but also allows for flexibility of options** and prioritizes the health and safety of our community. However, we have also prepared other options for our families.

Our Mission: HRIMS to nurture the development of each child to reach his fullest potential in a diverse environment that is firmly grounded in the Montessori philosophy.

Our Core Values:

- We are committed to always putting the needs of the child first.
- We express our personal and professional integrity in all that we do.
- We treat all members of our community with respect and dignity.
- We adhere to the Montessori philosophy, methodology, and prepared environment.
- We maintain the integrity of the classroom.
- We maintain a strong partnership between family, home and school.
- We actively integrate and embrace all types of diversity in our school community.

Priorities:

Hampton Roads International Montessori School remains committed to our mission and core values and continues to base our decisions on our mission and safety for our students and staff.

The Decision Process:

Our Planning Team has created this plan based on the guidelines provided by the government organizations, health organizations, child development organizations, and national independent school organizations. In addition, research from organizations such as the National Association of Pediatrics, CDC, NAIS, AMS and more have been instrumental in providing information to guide decisions in regard to health and safety for our students and staff.

We have created a plan that effectively delivers our Montessori education while incorporating these important health and safety factors by limiting our class sizes and implementing the strategies outlined in the following pages.

Choices for our Community:

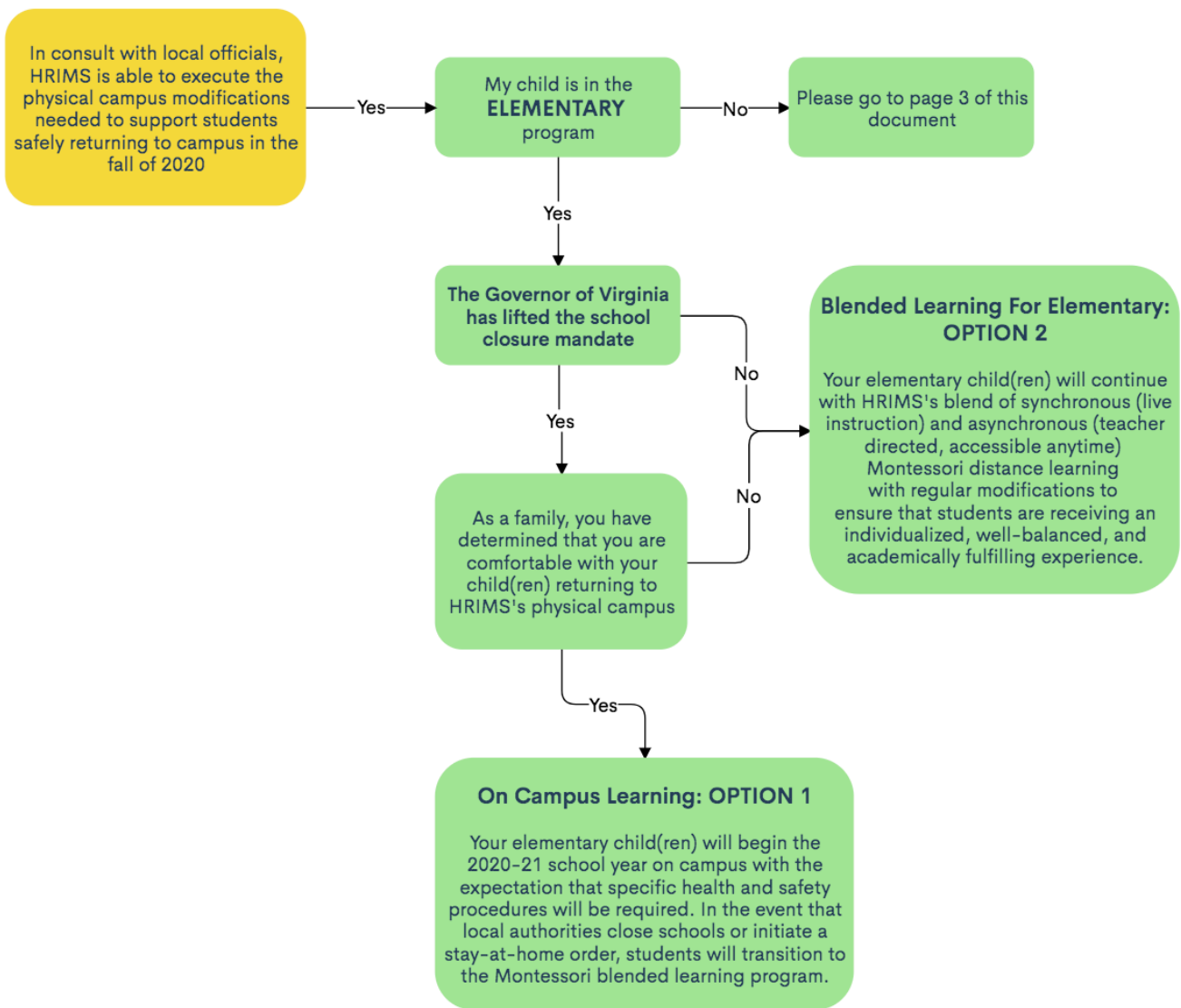
HRIMS knows that each of our families is unique but shares the same values for their child's education. In order to allow our families to best meet their student's needs, we have created options for on campus and distance learning models.

We also ask our families to be truly supportive of each other. Due to the viral nature of COVID-19, we ask that you continue to limit your contact with others for the benefit of our entire community. We ask that you do not send your child to school if they are sick and are supportive of school policies and procedures that minimize risk of exposure. Although we are aware that current research shows minimal risk and transmission in young children, we want to be certain that we are taking all available precautions for the health and safety of our entire community.

RE-ENTRY CHOICES

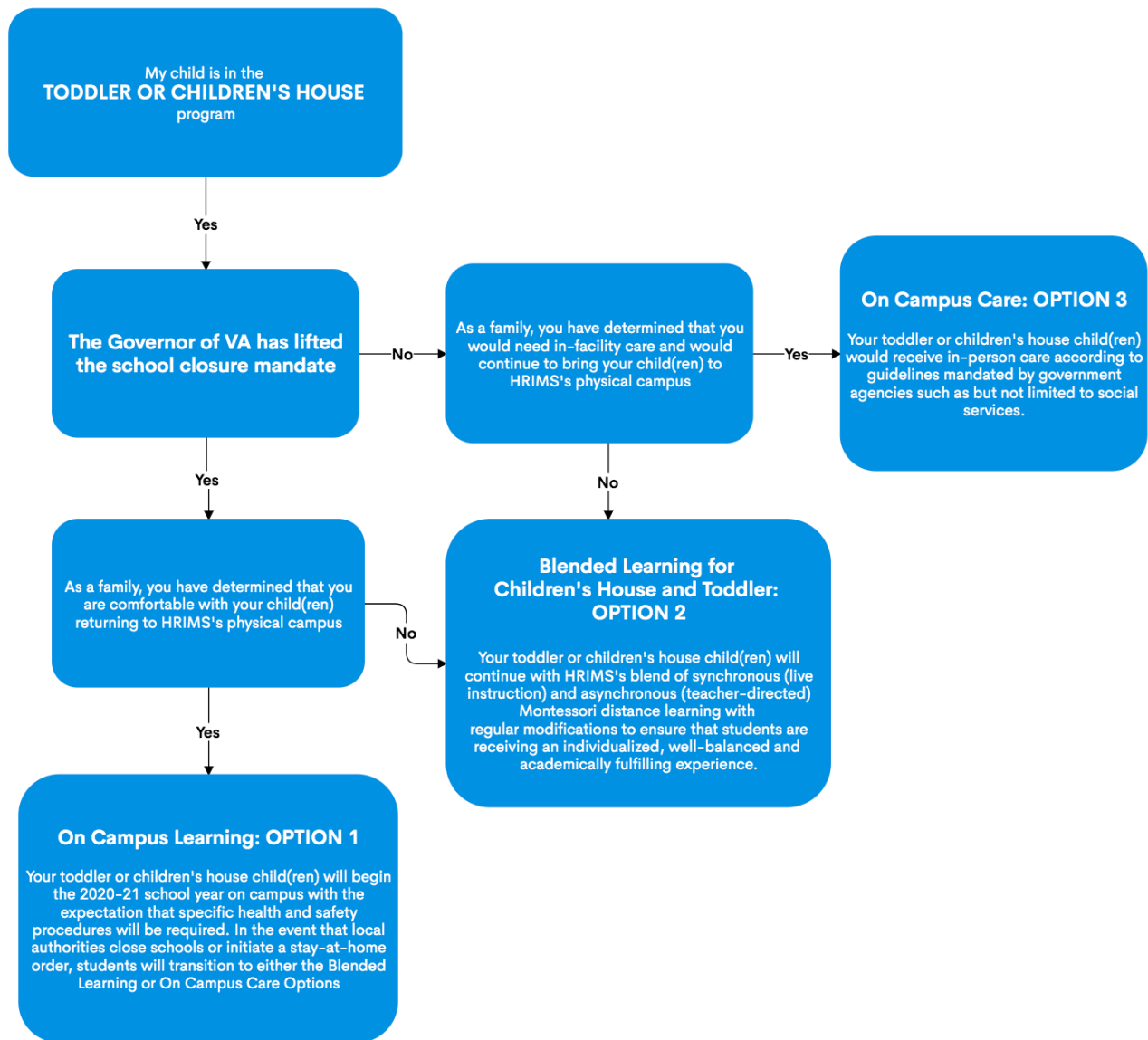
HRIMS has worked diligently to develop a strategy that allows for flexibility, transparency, and prioritizes the health and safety of our community. HRIMS is currently preparing the physical campus to support students for a 5 day a week program in the fall of 2020, and has also developed different options for our families to navigate. The Governor has announced that schools ARE ABLE TO OPEN PHYSICAL CAMPUSES IN THE FALL and HRIMS has submitted our plan to the state.

HRIMS will be offering ON CAMPUS EDUCATION 5 DAYS per WEEK.



RE-ENTRY CHOICES CONTINUED

HRIMS understands that families have unique needs in uncertain times. With that in mind, the administration in conjunction with the HRIMS teachers have created options for our families with younger students. HRIMS is currently preparing the physical campus to support students for a 5 day a week program in the fall of 2020, and has also developed different options for our families to navigate. As the Governor has announced that schools ARE ABLE TO OPEN PHYSICAL CAMPUSES IN THE FALL, HRIMS has submitted our plan to the state, **and will be offering ON CAMPUS EDUCATION 5 DAYS per WEEK.**



OPTION 1: ON CAMPUS LEARNING

HRIMS administration is preparing for on campus school operations to resume in the fall of 2020. The community will follow specific health precautions which will be in accordance with our local, state, and federal mandates. Our plan can be viewed on page 7 and 10 of this document. However, specific decisions and plans regarding on campus modifications will continue to be finalized over the next several months in accordance with updated health recommendations.



At this time, the standard drop-off and pick-up times are planned to remain the same, 8:30 am for drop off and 11:45 am and 3:00 pm for pickup 5 days per week.



At this time, Early Morning and Full Day programming are planned to be offered for students in all programs, beginning at 7:30 am and ending at 5:30, 5 days per week.

PREPARING FOR INTERRUPTIONS

Following the recommendations from the government, health, and educational agencies and trends from past pandemics, HRIMS is preparing for possible interruption to on campus learning. In the event our local community experiences a spike in COVID-19 cases and a mandated interruption of physical operations occurs, a shift to the Blended Learning (OPTION 2) and/or On Campus Care (OPTION 3) will happen immediately.



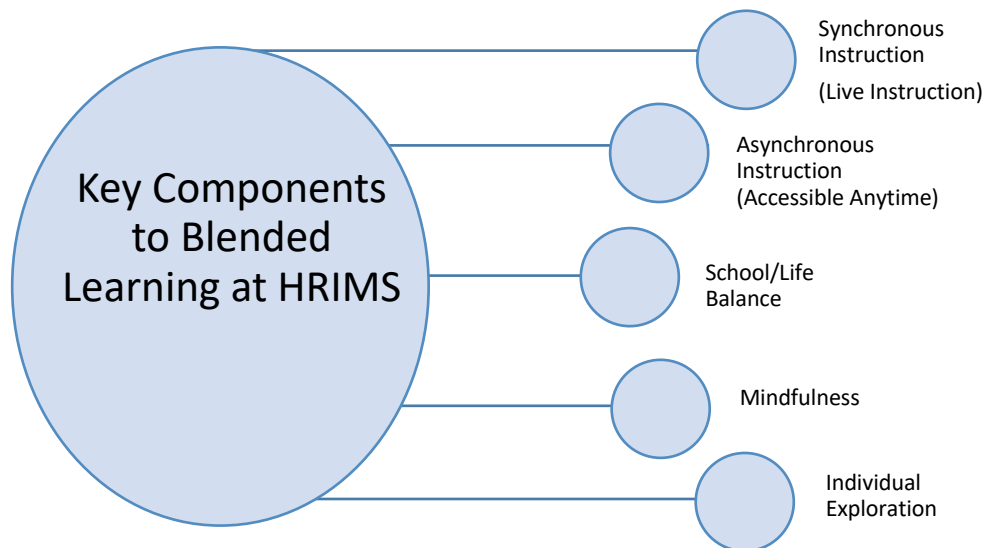
If the physical campus closes and HRIMS is required to transition to blended learning for a specified time of more than two weeks, families will be extended financial credit towards fees coinciding with being on campus. (Early Morning and Full-Day programming fees.)



OPTION 2: BLENDED LEARNING

Blended learning does not change our mission of nurturing the development of each child to reach their fullest potential in a diverse community that is firmly grounded in the Montessori philosophy. This mission utilizes personal and individualized attention and guided and self-motivated growth for children in all areas of their development, with a goal of nurturing each child's natural desire for knowledge, understanding, and respect.

In this model, we continue to educate the whole child, encourage the pursuit of individual passions, promote life balance, build confidence, encourage play as a foundation of learning, and provide multi-sensory experiences. HRIMS's blended learning model blends daily synchronous (live) instruction with asynchronous (accessible anytime) instruction with a schedule intentionally designed to provide for the social and emotional health for students, school/life balance, mindfulness, daily reading and journal writing. For more information, see p. 10 and 11.



CANDIDACY

Due to the independent nature of blended learning, self-motivated Montessori students adapt well to the distance learning program. Students interested in maintaining their status remotely must be committed to academic excellence, strong executive functioning skills, and have family support. Families may also indicate a health or medical reason for their decision to remain in a remote capacity.

EXPENSES

Early morning and full-day option fees will not be charged to families who indicate they will be opting into the blended learning program. Parents may opt into additional enrichment opportunities, such as after school classes and clubs for an additional fee.

OPTION 3: ON CAMPUS CARE

The Governor has announced that school buildings will NOT be mandated to close in the fall, so HRIMS administration is preparing for on campus care operations to be offered for our toddler and children's house students. The community will follow specific health precautions which will be in accordance with our local, state, and federal mandates. Specific decisions and plans regarding on campus modifications for the On Campus Program will be finalized over the next several months. However current considerations in this program are in accordance to those put in place under the mandates for our summer program, which has been in effect since June 15th and is in compliance with phases 1, 2 and 3 of the Governor's plan.



At this time, the standard drop-off and pick-up times are planned to remain the same, 8:30 am for drop off and 11:45 am and 3:00 pm for pickup, 5 days per week.



At this time, Early Morning and Full Day programming are planned to be offered for students in all programs, beginning at 7:30 am and ending at 5:30 pm, 5 days per week.

This program will likely consist of activities consistent with our fall program, as determined by government and licensing mandates in place at that time.

To see specific program guidelines under the school closure mandate, please see our fall program guidelines on page 7 of this document.



FALL PROGRAMMING

The policies and procedures listed below were created with guidance from the Governor, the Virginia Department of Social Services, the Virginia Department of Education and the Virginia Department of Health and Safety in order to keep our students, families and staff safe and healthy. Due to mandates and licensing requirements, as well as best practices, the policies and procedures listed below are mandatory for all staff, students and families, and may change at any time to comply with health and safety mandates. Thank you for helping us help you and your family.



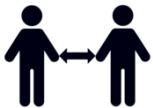
DATE AND TIMES

- 7:30AM - 5:30PM, MON-FRI
- 5 Days per Week On-Campus
- Following Current Calendar



FACILITY CLEANING

- Cleaning service with an e-spray system and fogging system
- Scheduled cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces throughout the day



SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Max. capacity per classroom based on social distancing mandates
- Staggered recess schedule
- Physical classroom arrangement to promote individual work
- Groups will not be combined
- Staff consistent to each classroom
- Curbside drop off and pickup



CLEANING OF MATERIALS

- Bedding stored in individual cubbies
- Cots labeled for each child
- Materials will be sanitized after use



STUDENT ACTIVITIES

- Varied individual activities
- Limited group activities
- Limited item sharing
- Additional outside time



ADULT PROCEDURES

- Follow posted protocols
- Necessary visitors only
- Staff will follow social distancing while allowing for the care of children.
- Student emergency forms must be signed and updated with emergency contacts that can pick up a child should they become ill



HEALTH PROCEDURES

- Temperatures of staff and students taken prior to entry each day
- Symptom of COVID-19 checks will be conducted at entry and throughout the day
- Students and staff developing symptoms during the day (fever of 100.4, coughing, shortness of breath) will be separated from the group and will be picked up
- Employees and families must inform HRIMS immediately if a household member had been diagnosed with COVID-19
- HRIMS is mandated to inform our local health department and licensing inspector, as well as provide a list of those who have been in contact with the diagnosed person
- A mandatory 14-day waiting period of any child that has been exposed or tested positive and a physician's note is required for re-entry
- The classroom will be closed for 2 days to allow local health officials to determine a course of action which may include a temporary classroom closure of up to 14 days
- Staff will be wearing masks; CH students may wear masks, Elementary students must wear masks when inside
- Travelers out of the local area will need to follow guidance from health officials
- All guidelines are posted



INFECTION CONTROL

- Frequent handwashing when entering and exiting and before and after all activities
- Snack and lunch brought from home in disposable or reusable containers
- Modified sign in and of procedures as posted.

PHYSICAL CAMPUS

While specific decisions and plans will continue to be finalized over the next several months as more information and updated public health guidelines are issued, current strategies for the fall include the following, but are not limited to:



Requirements for taking temperatures, testing results for staff and students



The use of masks during classes and in public gathering spaces



Institution of capacity limits to allow for social distancing in spaces such as the Multi-Purpose Room



Sanitizing and cleaning processes



Changes to campus access for visitors and families



Continued options including the use of online and virtual platforms in conjunction with in-person services to keep in-person contact at safer levels in the areas of academic instruction, student activities and more.



Modification of programs and events in compliance with limits on crowd sizes and social distancing measures

COMMUNICATION

Communication and resources for staff and families will be conveyed through the procedures and methods below and current strategies for the fall include the following, but are not limited to:



Covid-19 Planning Team
Ms. Michelle: Point Person
Ms. Lindsey: Facilities/ HR
Ms. Janet: Student Services/MAT/ Communication



Newport News Health Dept.
757-594-7300
416 J. Clyde Morris
Newport News, VA 23601



Continued monitoring of health and absenteeism as per current practices and policies.



The use of masks and face shields continues during classes and in public gathering spaces



Mental Health Resources Available to our families and staff members can be found at:

<https://thechasfoundation.org/mental-health-resources/hampton-newport-news/>



- The 2020 Re-entry plan is included in our application packet for all inquiring families.
- The 2020 Re-entry plan has been given to all current families.
- The 2020 Re-entry plan will be discussed at our Back to School Night prior to the start of the school year.
- The policies and procedures related to the 2020 Re-entry plan will be reviewed and discussed at in-service meetings prior to the beginning of the school year.

Following guidelines from the Health Department for communicating positive cases, our School Messenger phone notification system will be used for initial contact and email will be used to communicate additional information for both families and staff.

CHOICES IN EDUCATION

In order to best meet the needs of our students and families, HRIMS is offering a choice of on campus learning or distance learning for the 2020-21 school year. If at any time, a student or classroom needs to be temporarily quarantined at home, or if a family makes the choice to have a child remain at home, they may switch to the distance learning format for that time period, and rejoin the on-campus program after following the health and safety protocols.

“Schools are fundamental to child and adolescent development and well-being and provide our children and adolescents with academic instruction, social and emotional skills, safety, reliable nutrition, physical/speech and mental health therapy, and opportunities for physical activity, among other benefits. Beyond supporting the educational development of children and adolescents, schools play a critical role in addressing racial and social inequity... Any school re-entry policies should consider the following key principles:

- School policies must be flexible and nimble in responding to new information, and administrators must be willing to refine approaches when specific policies are not working.
- It is critically important to develop strategies that can be revised and adapted depending on the level of viral transmission in the school and throughout the community and done with close communication with state and/or local public health authorities and recognizing the differences between school districts, including urban, suburban, and rural districts.
- Policies should be practical, feasible, and appropriate for child and adolescent's developmental stage.
- Special considerations and accommodations to account for the diversity of youth should be made, especially for our vulnerable populations, including those who are medically fragile, live in poverty, have developmental challenges, or have special health care needs or disabilities, with the goal of safe return to school.
- No child or adolescents should be excluded from school unless required in order to adhere to local public health mandates or because of unique medical needs. Pediatricians, families, and schools should partner together to collaboratively identify and develop accommodations, when needed.
- School policies should be guided by supporting the overall health and well-being of all children, adolescents, their families, and their communities.

With the above principles in mind, **the AAP strongly advocates that all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school.** The importance of in-person learning is well-documented, and there is already evidence of the negative impacts on children because of school closures in the spring of 2020.” --American Academy of Pediatrics

With this guidance in mind, HRIMS has created options that allow for on-campus education of our students, incorporating the health and safety guidelines from the CDC, Department of Education, and Department of Social Services. In addition, we are offering our families a distance learning program that incorporates social interactions and educational accommodations to best meet the needs of the whole child.

On-Campus Programming

- Students receive individual and small group lessons based on individualized lesson plans to continue to progress through the curriculum in keeping with social distancing guidelines
- Students work in the classroom in defined but flexible workspaces determined by the prepared environment
- Class groupings and staff are consistent to the group
- Recess is conducted with the classroom group only
- Additional time outside is allotted to include lessons
- Students have individual snack brought from home
- Students use individual supply packs kept in class
- Children’s House students have the option of wearing masks during the day, but those who wish to work together must be wearing a mask during that time
- All elementary students must wear masks
- Individual areas will be available for “mask breaks” and will be sanitized after each use

Distance Learning Programming

- Students receive individual and small group lessons based on individualized lesson plans to continue to progress through the curriculum, participating from home in the morning and afternoon
- Students will use online platforms and materials depending on age, such as Epic Books.
- Students will use materials at home supplied by HRIMS to support the lessons presented and those to be practiced at home
- Students will be able to participate in group activities live with other students
- Students will be able to participate in projects and work with other students as age appropriate
- Students will have the opportunity to engage in conversation during snack with a friend (virtually)

(In the event a child or classroom is in need of temporary quarantine, this program will be used.)

DIGITAL PLATFORMS

In the event school classrooms or buildings are mandated to temporarily close (possibly up to 2 weeks, as determined by the department of health) during the school year due to quarantine, or families opt for distance learning for their child, HRIMS administration and staff are preparing to continue the use of the following digital platforms for lessons and class meetings in addition to packets of lessons and materials:



***Google Classroom** is not new for our HRIMS elementary students. They are accustomed to managing their work, discussions, projects, and assignments through this platform. All classroom materials, announcements, and assignments will be housed in Google Classroom.*



***Zoom** has been a staple at all levels for class discussions, meetings, small group sharing and discussion, as well as break out groups during larger group lessons and LIVE (synchronous) instruction. Zoom sessions can be joined directly from invitations sent by your child's teacher.*



***Google Meets** will be one of HRIMS's platforms also available to elementary students for LIVE (synchronous) instruction. Google Hangout/Meets can be joined directly from invitations sent by your child's teacher.*



2020-2021 CALENDAR

PREPARING FOR NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR

P. 12

2020/2021 HRIMS School Calendar

August 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- 7 Last Day Summer Camps
- 10 School is closed
- 11-21 Professional Day / Closed for all students
- 18 New Parent Orientation 6:30pm Parents Only
- 19-21 Student orientation - Information regarding time will be emailed
- 20 Back to School Night
- 24 First Day of School

September 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- 12 No School - Indigenous Peoples Day
- 17 5K & Fall Social
- 23 Professional Day - School Closed

November 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

- 5 Parent Conf. - 11:45 Dismissal for AM and 3:00 Students. Full Day Students in Session
- 6 Parent Conf - No School
- 11 Veterans Day - No School
- 25-27 Thanksgiving - No School

December 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- 12 Winter Social
- 21-31 Winter Break - No School

January 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 1 Winter Break - No School
- 15 Professional Day - School Closed
- 18 Martin Luther King Day - School Closed

February 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

- 4 Parent Conf. - 11:45 Dismissal for AM and 3:00 Students. Full Day Students in Session
- 5 Parent Conf - No School
- 15 Presidents Day - No School
- 26 Half Day - All Students and Int'l Potluck 5:30

March 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- 4-5 Professional Day - School Closed
- National Montessori Conference

April 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

- 5-9 Spring Break - School Closed
- 17 Spring Fair
- 21 Progress Reports sent home
- 23 Professional Day - School Closed

May 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- 21 Professional Day - School Closed
- 31 Memorial Day - School Closed

June 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

- 3 Progress Reports sent home
- 4 Last day of School - Half Day all students / Graduation and Picnic
- 7 Professional Day - School Closed
- 8-11 Fun Week - 12 Month Contracts Only
- 14 Summer Session 1 - 2 weeks
- 28 Summer Session 2 - 2 weeks

July 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- 5 4th of July - School Closed
- 12 Summer Session 3 - 2 weeks
- 26 Summer Session 4 - 2 weeks

August 2021						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- 6 Last day of summer camp
- 9-20 Professional Day - No School
- 29 First day of school

Oct 23 End of Q1 Due Oct. 30
 Jan 15 End of Q2 Due Jan 25
 Mar 24 End of Q3 Due Apr 12
 Jun 4 End of Q4 Due May 27

Send home Apr. 21
 Send home June 3

HRIMS RESILIENCY

Hampton Roads International Montessori School is here not only to provide a sense of continuity of learning for your child(ren), but also to provide a strong and safe community for your entire family. The ability to offer flexibility in our plan for the 2020 school year in accordance with government and health mandates allows us to meet the diverse needs of our families and continue to provide a Montessori education at a high level of excellence.

With their resilience when facing this challenge, our students have shown they truly embody our **HRIMS Portrait of A Graduate**. We have found that not only our graduates, but all of our students are:

- **Social innovators who are inclusive and lead with empathy and a greater sense of purpose beyond themselves.**
- **Motivated citizens who are bold and courageous in their approach to life and resilient when facing challenges.**
- **Conscientious advocates with social competence who move beyond compassion to implement strategies that create positive change.**
- **Critical thinkers who are confident, well-rounded students with a life-long joy for learning.**
- **Proactive problem-solvers who approach life's tasks with responsibility and independence.**
- **Active alumni who cherish their time at HRIMS and contribute to their home, school and community.**

Thank you for being a member of our HRIMS community and joining us in our future planning!

