



R.I.S.E.

**RESTARTING through
INNOVATIVE,
SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION**



Restarting through Innovative, Sustainable Education

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we approach the end of a school year like no other, we want to thank you for entrusting us with your child(ren) and partnering to provide high quality learning experiences. Most importantly, we hope that your entire family is safe and well. We are ending the year at a distance, but you are not far from our thoughts.

As our nation grapples with the impact of a global pandemic and an unprecedented economic slowdown, we are actively preparing for our reopening. We know that questions abound for you regarding what the future holds and what schooling will look like next year. While much is still unknown, we want to take this opportunity to discuss our preparations and our vision for the coming year.

First and foremost, every decision we make regarding the opening and operating of schools will be made with the health and safety of the entire school community in mind and strict adherence to federal, state, and local health authority guidance. It is critical that we remain nimble and adaptable to changing conditions. Thus, our strategy is to offer maximum flexibility and multiple avenues for students to access learning and receive high quality instruction in the Safest Appropriate Setting (SAS).

Summer Learning

Due to the abrupt transition to virtual learning, many are concerned about student readiness for next year and summer regression. We will make grade level appropriate, subject specific online learning resources available throughout the summer. Special efforts are being taken to assess where students are in terms of grade-level mastery in Reading and Mathematics. Enrichment and remedial learning opportunities will be provided via online learning resources. In the coming weeks information will be provided regarding access to individualized, learning resources for your child.

Physical Opening

As mentioned earlier, any physical reopening of school buildings will only occur under the direction of the Florida Department of Education and local school districts. We are currently making preparations at the school site for a reopening in the Fall. Here are some of the steps that are being taken in preparation for a safe reopening of school:

- All staff issued masks and face shields
- Front counter outfitted with plastic “shield” barriers
- New hand sanitizer stations in every classroom, office, and lunchroom
- New soap dispensers throughout the school
- New disinfecting regimen of high touch surfaces throughout the day
- Scheduled cleanings (with documentation) of all restrooms
- New sanitary cleaning carts with wet vacs for use in all bathrooms
- Backpack spray units at each school for disinfecting
- Digital, non-contact thermometers for each school
- Social distancing signage
- Weekly playground cleaning



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Instructional Program

COVID-19 has proven to be a difficult virus to predict. As such, we do not know what the status of the virus will be in the Fall. Our charter schools were developed on the premise of innovation and adaptability. We are pleased to announce Charter School Associates **RISE** (Restarting through Innovative, Sustainable Education). **RISE** incorporates a blend of virtual learning and traditional, face-to-face instruction. We will be able to move seamlessly from one delivery model to the other as circumstances dictate. This is particularly useful in the event of a temporary school closure should a new Shelter in Place Order occur. Students will simply transition to an all virtual model. If the school day is modified due to class size restrictions and social distancing, students will be able to continue learning throughout the day remotely or in person.

This hybrid model will assist those families who have medically vulnerable members at home and may require extended periods of at-home learning. The beauty of **RISE** is that students can continue to receive quality education with their current teacher and peers with whom they are already familiar.

Our goal is to ensure that in these challenging times all families have an opportunity to access learning based on their specific needs and in the Safest Appropriate Setting. If you have a unique situation, please do not hesitate to contact the school administration to discuss options for your child. In most cases, we will be able to find a solution that works for you.

Access to the School Building

The safety and wellbeing of our students and staff is our highest priority. Once school reopens in the fall, access to the school facility by non-students and non-staff will be extremely limited. Most of our routine services will occur curbside where you will interact with school personnel wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). Access to the internal building will be by appointment only. You can expect that certain precautionary safeguards will be taken. These include but are not limited to face masks, gloves, thermal temperature reading, social distancing, length of stay limits, and a questionnaire. We understand that this is a break from our normal processes and hope that you understand that these steps are required to ensure the highest level of safety and security during this period.

This is by no means an exhaustive description of schooling in the Fall. We recognize that our direction may change as new information becomes available. We think it prudent to provide you with as much information as possible, so that you can prepare for the reopening of school. Most importantly, we want you to know that we are ready to meet your family's schooling needs in the Safest Appropriate Setting regardless of how the circumstances may change. We will continue to learn and grow together.

Please check your school's website as more information regarding CSA RISE will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,
Michael G. Strader
President
Charter School Associates, Inc.