

UPPER SCHOOL

9TH GRADE THROUGH 12TH GRADE

Dear Upper School Families,

The past two weeks have seen a few significant swings in our TVS Reopening Plan, but I hope that you share my enthusiasm for school to resume later in August by the plan that we communicated earlier this month. I am very eager to return to classrooms, corridors, and other communal spaces filled with the happy sounds of students and teachers learning and growing together. We have worked exceptionally hard to prepare for this reality in a way that captures the very best of TVS while creating an environment that is safe and respectful of our continued shared struggle with this pandemic. In response to your queries, we are also offering Trojan Learning Connection (TLC) as an opportunity for our families to have their students access their learning from home. More on that offering follows below.

Start of School

The first day of our new school year is Wednesday, August 19. While that date remains the same, not all students will report on that first day. Instead, we are utilizing a staged reopening that will help us to accomplish two major goals. First, there are new protocols around hygiene and social distancing, technology, and other community activities that will require extra training and discussion for students in all grades. Additionally, this gradual reopening will allow us to practice and fine tune the protocols we have in place, including drop-off, handwashing, and pick-up procedures, before the first day with all of our students in the building. Detailed schedules and times will follow at a later date, but for your planning purposes:

- Freshmen will spend a somewhat shortened day on campus on Wednesday, 8/19. They will experience their orientation to the Upper School, spend time strengthening old relationships and making new ones, and meet all of their teachers and classmates.
- Sophomores will spend a couple of hours on campus during the morning of Thursday, 8/20 for orientation to new procedures and some group activities.
- Juniors will come to campus that afternoon for their orientation and class activities.
- The Class of 2021 will be on campus during the morning hours of Friday, 8/21 for orientation to new protocols and activities focused on their collective role as campus leaders.
- Students in grades 9-11 will join the seniors on campus after lunch on Friday to participate in a shortened schedule of classes for brief introductions and so that we can observe new processes in action.
- All Upper School students will come to campus for the start of the school day on Monday, 8/24 for our first full academic day.

Trojan Learning Connection (TLC)

As you know, families have been asked to complete a [survey](#) by 8 a.m. Monday, 8/3 indicating their preference for on-campus learning or the Trojan Learning Connection option. TLC will be a robust online-learning experience that includes real-time synchronous class attendance throughout the entire academic day. Though the number of participants in various grade levels and classes will dictate some of the smaller details, parents and students can expect integration through video conferencing and other technology tools into the daily experience of what is happening in our classrooms on campus. This will of course include breaks for lunch and at other times that coincide with transitions happening at school. TLC students will also participate regularly in advisory and assemblies.

For clarification, while the Upper School follows a semester-long grade reporting period, the TLC option will be elected on a quarterly basis, rather than by semester. Each quarter lasts roughly nine

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weeks, and families will have the opportunity to re-elect TLC or choose a transition back to on-campus learning at the conclusion of the first quarter. For your reference, the first quarter ends on Friday, October 16. We will reassess our community's need for TLC for the second semester.

Health Protocols

In collaboration with the doctors who serve as our acting medical advisors and with representatives from the Tarrant Health Department, our nurses have developed the TVS COVID-19 Protocols linked [here](#). We will be using a self-reporting app that will require parents to do a temperature check and answer a handful of screening questions each day before their child may be on campus.

As always, we appreciate your patience and partnership as we work through this unprecedented set of circumstances. We are determined to do our absolute best each and every day for you and your students, and thank you for your continued support and commitment to Trinity Valley School. I wish you, your students, and your loved ones and friends continued good health and well being.

Sincerely,
Kyle Kahuda
Head of Upper School