# 2020-21 Back to School Information Session

California Montessori Project



## First, a thank you...

- Understanding
- Flexibility
- Adaptability
- Partnership
- Collaboration

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge us in unpredictable ways.

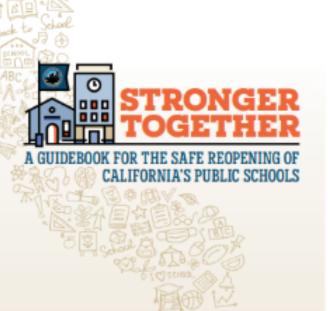
There isn't a school system in the country that is stronger or more adaptable than ours. We'll succeed because of all of you.

## Review of Last Week's Changing Landscape

- Monday CMP Announces 2020-21 Reopening Plan at Board Meeting
- Wednesday Sacramento County Announces All School Distance Learning in August and September
- Friday Governor Announces All School In Counties on "Watch List" Will Be Distance Learning

### **CMP** Develops Reopening Plan





California Department of Education June 2020



COVID-19 INDUSTRY GUIDANCE: Schools and School-Based Programs

Release date: June 5, 2020

Recommended effective date no sooner than: June 12, 2020

All guidance should be implemented only with county health officer approval following their review of local epidemiological data including cases per 100,000 population, rate of test positivity, and local preparedness to support a health care surge, vulnerable populations, contact tracing, and testing.



## SACRAMENTO COUNTY

### **SCHOOL YEAR PLANNING:** A GUIDE TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES OF COVID-19

INCLUDING A SPECIAL SECTION FOR FAMILIES/COMMUNITIES



JUNE 2, 2020

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- Still on our website
- Worth reviewing
- Shows what school will look like when we return to inperson learning
- Good outline of all of the safety measures we are putting in place for students and staff

## California Montessori Project Re-Opening Plan



#### Introduction

The California Montessori Project (CMP) is home to approximately 2,700 students and 500 staff members. We are a community that cares deeply about our collective well-being.



### **Determination from Sacramento County Public Health 7/15**



### School to Resume with Distance Learning Model

### Sacramento County School Superintendents and Health Officials Focus on Safety

Sacramento County Office of Education / SCOE News / School to Resume with Distance Learning Model





July 15, 2020

Over the past several weeks Sacramento's 13 school District Superintendents have been working closely with Sacramento County Department of Health Services Director, Dr. Peter Beilenson, and County Health Officer, Dr. Olivia Kasirye. Our goal has been to safely return students to some form of in person school.

Drs. Beilenson and Kasirye have provided Superintendents with data on increases in community spread of the coronavirus combined with an inability of the current testing system to support sufficient timely return of test results if schools were to reopen.

In light of these circumstances, District Superintendents in the thirteen districts and the County Superintendent, with the support of Drs. Beilenson and Kasirye, have made the following determination:

 Schools should open in August/September with a Distance Learning model.

We recognize the significant impact school closures have on our entire community, students, families, and staff. The Sacramento County Office of Education and our 13 school districts will continue to work diligently and collaboratively towards a safe reopening of schools in Sacramento County when health conditions allow.

-DecuSigned by:

-Decudiigned by:

Peter Bullenson

Peter Beilenson, MD, MPH Sacramento County Department of Health Services Director

Olivia Easing Olivia Kasirye, MD, MS Sacramento County Health Officer Dave Gordon

David W. Gordon Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools

## School Districts Across Sacramento County Opening with Distance Learning

- 1. Arcohe Union School District (K-8)
- 2. Center Joint Unified School District (K-12)
- 3. Elk Grove Unified School District (K-12)
- 4. Elverta Joint School District (K-8)
- 5. Folsom Cordova Unified School District (K-12)
- 6. Galt Joint Union Elementary School District (K-8)
- Galt Joint Union High School District (9-12)

- 8. Natomas Unified School District (K-12)
- 9. River Delta Unified School District (K-12)
- 10. Robla School District (K-6)
- 11. Sacramento City Unified School District (K-12)
- 12. San Juan Unified School District (K-12)
- 13. Twin Rivers Unified School District (K-12)



### Your Actions Save Lives

#### **California's Pandemic Plan for Schools**

- Safe in-person school based on local health data
- 2. Mask requirements
  - 3. Physical distancing + other adaptations
  - 4. Regular testing + dedicated contact tracing
  - 5. Rigorous distance learning

Wear a mask. Slow the spread.





### Your Actions Save Lives

#### 1. Safe In-Person School Based on Local Health Data



Using health data, schools can physically open when its county has been off the Monitoring List for 14 consecutive days.

Schools that don't meet this requirement must begin the year distance learning.





Wear a mask. Slow the spread.



### Your Actions Save Lives

#### 3. Physical Distancing & Other Adaptations

- Staff must maintain 6 ft between each other and with students
  Symptom checks
  - symptom cnecks
  - Hand washing stations
  - Sanitation and disinfection
  - Quarantine protocols

💕 Wear a mask. Slow the spread.



### Your Actions Save Lives

#### 4. Testing and Contact Tracing



#### Requirement to test staff regularly

 State contact tracing workforce will prioritize schools

Wear a mask. Slow the spread.



### Your Actions Save Lives

#### 5. Rigorous Distance Learning

#### **New Statewide Requirements:**



- Access to devices and connectivity for all kids
- Daily live interaction with teachers and other students
- Challenging assignments equivalent to inperson classes
- Adapted lessons for English language learners and special education students





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### Your Actions Save Lives

#### When Should In-Person Learning Close?

- Schools should consult with a public health officer first
- A classroom cohort goes home when there is a confirmed case
- A school goes home when multiple cohorts have cases or more than 5% of school is positive
- A district goes home if 25% of their schools are closed within a 14-day period

Wear a mask. Slow the spread.



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### Your Actions Save Lives

#### California's Bottom Line

Students, teachers, staff, and parents prefer in-classroom instruction — but <u>only</u> if it can be done safely.

Safety is determined by local health data.





### Your Actions Save Lives

California's Bottom Line

Learning is non-negotiable.

Neither is safety.

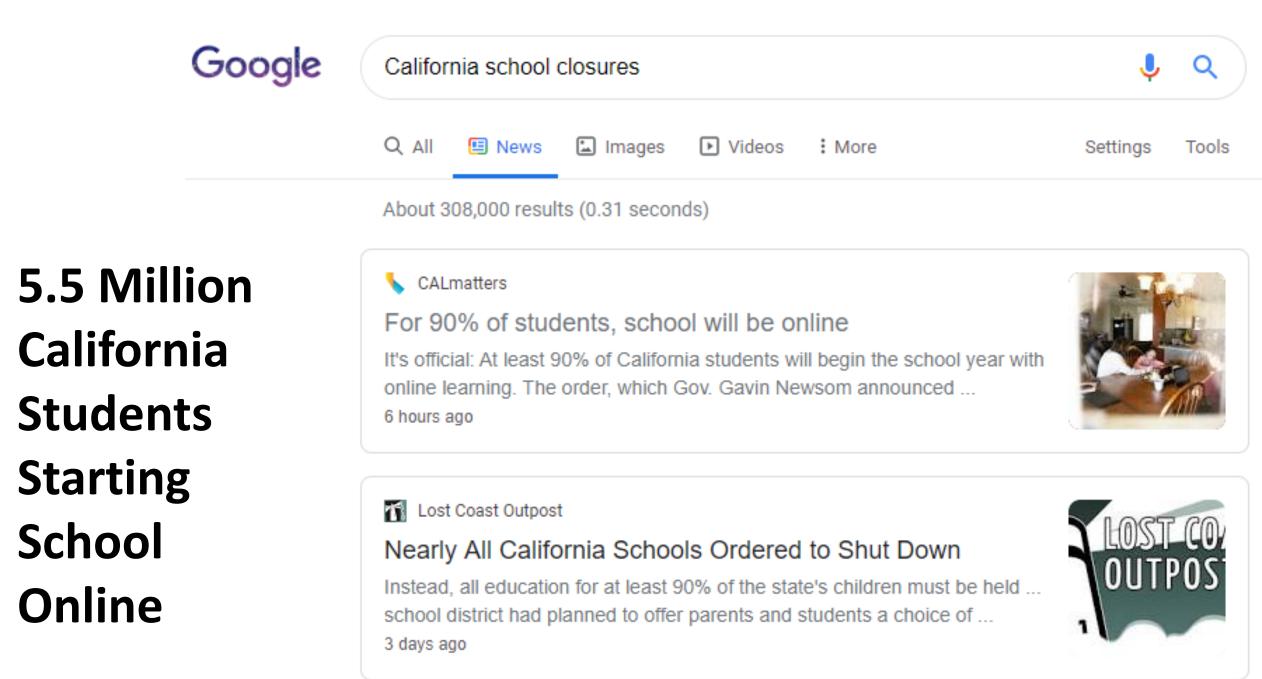


### New State Requirements Summary

- Re-Opening Mandate
  - Must be Distance Learning if the school is in a county on the "County Watch List"
  - Applies to Public and Private Schools
- When to close
  - Classroom cohort goes home when there is a confirmed case in the cohort
  - Multiple cases in multiple cohorts
  - At least 5% of the total number of teachers/students/staff are cases within a 14-day period
  - If 25% of schools have closed within the last 14 days then the district closes.
  - Local Health Officer may "determine school closure is warranted" based on local epidemiological data or public health investigations, but the guidance does not give the Officer the authority to require closure.

### New State Requirements Summary

- When to Reopen
  - After 14 days and the following have occurred
    - Cleaning and disinfection
    - Public health investigation
    - Consultation with local public health department
- Face Coverings
  - Required 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade and higher
  - Strongly Recommended K-2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Students that refuse to wear masks must be excluded from on-campus activities
  - All staff must wear face coverings.



# 2020-21 Back to School Distance Learning Plan

California Montessori Project



## 2019-20 CMP Distance Learning Accomplishments

- Instructional Transitions
  - Distance Learning 1.0 Started Day 1 of Closure through Spring Break
  - Distance Learning 2.0 with fully formed daily schedules Post-Spring Break through End of School Year
- Special Education Virtual services and IEPs
- Maintained Intervention Programs
- □ Provided P.E., Art, VAPA, and other enrichment opportunities
- □ Deployed 600+ Chromebooks
- Sharing and Supporting Meal Resources throughout Sacramento and El Dorado County
- Virtual Lottery Notified families in 3 hours, more than 1,300 applications
- Staying connected with EVERY student

## Student Engagement = 89.11%

Campus	Average Participation Rate Week of 4-13-20	Average Participation Rate Week of 4-20-20	Average Participation Rate Week of 4-27-20	Average Participation Rate Week of 5-4-20	Average Participation Rate Week of 5-11-20	Average Participation Rate Week of 5-18-20
Capitol	91.96%	92.53%	93.25%	90.47%	95.08%	90.93%
Carmichael	87.31%	89.41%	89.50%	86.00%	87.53%	84.33%
American River	85.80%	89.18%	90.63%	89.09%	89.51%	88.42%
Elk Grove	86.29%	90.02%	87.31%	90.10%	90.89%	89.07%
Shingle Springs	92.50%	97.40%	97.06%	96.35%	95.80%	93.45%
Orangevale	84.06%	83.08%	84.22%	86.49%	89.93%	81.71%
Network Averages	87.99%	90.27%	90.33%	89.75%	91.46%	87.98%

## Feedback from Students, Families, & Staff

### **Overall Positive and Appreciative**

- Immediate transition after closure
- Families felt supported
- CMP engaged in continuous improvement efforts and made adjustments
- Focus on academics and Social Emotional Connections
- Structured daily schedules with "live" and recorded activities appreciated

### **Opportunities for Growth**

- More "live" teaching and recorded lessons
- Making it less optional, clarity around grading and feedback
- Additional arts instruction and virtual performances
- More differentiation, intervention, and clarity around Special Education
- Clarity around tracking of standards mastery

# Planning for 2020-2021



## CMP's Ten Commitments

- We will ground our approach in <u>Montessori</u> <u>methodology</u> and equity to take a tailored approach to meeting the individual needs of each student.
- 2. We will prioritize student, staff, & community safety.
- 3. We will support the physical and mental well being of students and staff and integrate social-emotional learning into our instructional core.
- 4. We will measure student engagement; seek to keep students engaged, motivated, and healthy; and take immediate action when we see students not fully engaging.
- 5. We will continue student learning by teaching new content across a well-rounded curriculum.

- 6. We will focus instruction on the mastery of essential standards.
- We will provide "live" class instruction every day (synchronous instruction).
- 8. We will provide feedback on student work through the use of rubrics and/or grades.
- 9. We will authentically engage and collaborate with each other in all phases of re-entry planning, implementation, and communication.
- 10. We recognize that families have different circumstances and commit to meeting families where they are and providing support to the best of our abilities.

### Back to School Parent Meetings (August 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>)

- CMP will hold virtual individual back to school parent meetings with every interested family.
- At these meetings, families will learn more about the specifics of their teacher's distance learning program.
- Teachers will share their daily schedule for students.
- Teachers will be able to demonstrate how to access Zoom for live lessons and Google Classroom for student assignments.
- Teachers will walk families through curriculum and materials that will be at home with students and how parents can support students.
- Parents will have an opportunity to ask questions of the teacher.

### Drive By Welcome Back to School

- Students and families will have an opportunity to meet their teacher before the beginning of school.
- CMP staff is creating DIY Montessori supplies for families to use at home.
- Students and families will have an opportunity to pick up devices, curriculum, and work packets prior to the beginning of school.

## **Technology Distribution and Training**

### Chromebooks

- A survey will be sent following this meeting to determine family technology needs.
- Chromebooks will be distributed families in the week leading up to the first week of school

### **Tech Support**

- Parents will be able to email CMP's tech team for help with any of the online programs, login information and any CMP tech questions
  - Email: <u>cmptech@cacmp.org</u>

### Parent Technology Overview

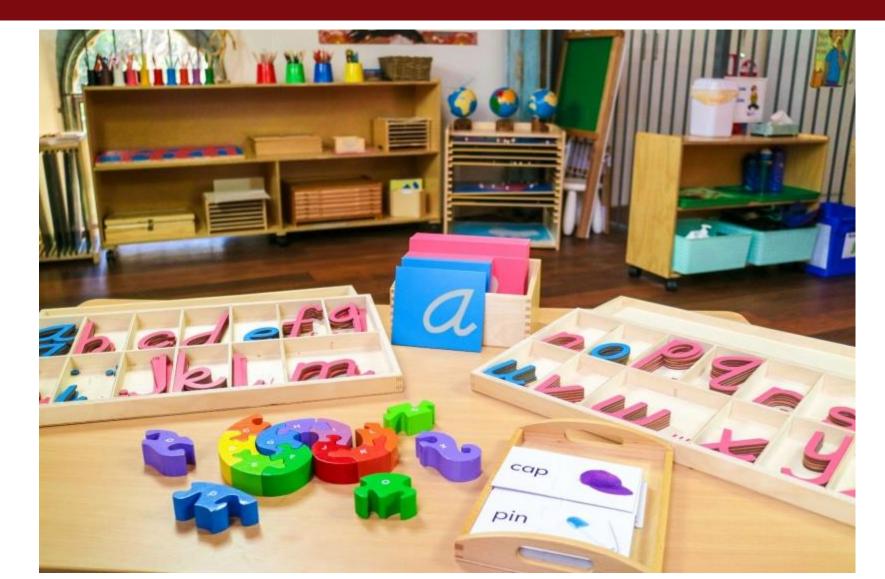
 The tech department will host Distance Learning Overviews that go over online program logins, the distance learning site, and answer parent tech FAQs

### **Parent Training Videos**

- We will also have a library of training videos available to families
- These will be hosted on each campus' Distance Learning website along with directions for contacting the Tech Department



**Teachers and Teaching Assistants** will be allowed to deliver lessons from classrooms via Zoom to allow for stronger instruction in Montessori **Curriculum with use** of Montessori materials.



CMP staff will be working to build takehome Montessori materials and packets for students to use at home during Distance Learning.

Families can help out (donate or volunteer) by reaching out to their school site Principal.



 Request: Can Students use more physical work products?

 Response: CMP purchased math workbooks for all students in 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade



Ready (2017)

Published By: Curriculum Associates | Date Published: 4/12/2018 | View These Reports Ready 17 the

- GRADE **RIGOR &** FOCUS & ALIGNMENT USABILITY Students use more LEVEL COHERENCE MATHEMATICAL RATING RATING PRACTICES Meets 36/38 18/18 Kindergarten 14/14 Expectations Meets 14/14 36/38 18/18 First Grade Expectations Meets 14/14 36/38 Second Grade 18/18 Expectations Meets 14/14 18/18 36/38 Third Grade Expectations Meets 14/14 18/18 36/38 Fourth Grade Expectations Meets 14/14 36/38 Fifth Grade 18/18 Expectations Meets 13/14 17/18 36/38 Sixth Grade Expectations
- **Response**: CMP lacksquarepurchased math workbooks for all students in 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Request: Can

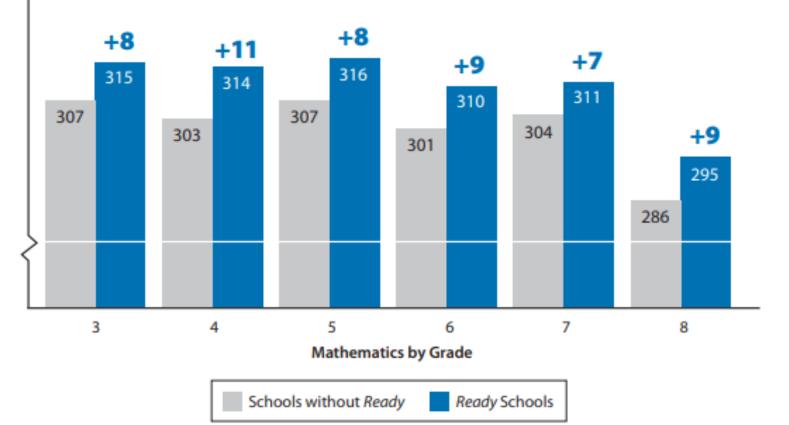
physical work

products?

lacksquare

 Request: Can Students use more physical work products?

 Response: CMP purchased math workbooks for all students in 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade New York State Test Scale Scores for Mathematics: Ready Schools and Schools without Ready



Scores and score differences are rounded to the nearest whole number.

### **Special Education:**

- Before the change of guidelines from the Governor and California Public Health last week, CMP was prepared to bring back students that would benefit the most from in person learning in a manner that followed regulations and protected students, families, and staff.
- CMP is working with County Public Health to determine if the new direction from the Governor on Friday will allow us to do small group special education services.
- We are expecting additional guidance from the State.
- Until we get permission for in person learning for students with special needs, special education services will be conducted via distance learning.
- The service providers will continue to monitor student progress.

### Special Education:

- CMP Special Education staff have enhanced their expertise in delivering Distance Learning.
- CMP hired an additional 14 inhouse special education staff.
- Case managers and/or special education administration will be reaching out to families as the school year approaches.
- If your child needs specific accommodations during distance learning, please contact your child's case manager so an IEP amendment meeting can be scheduled to add those distance learning needs to the IEP.



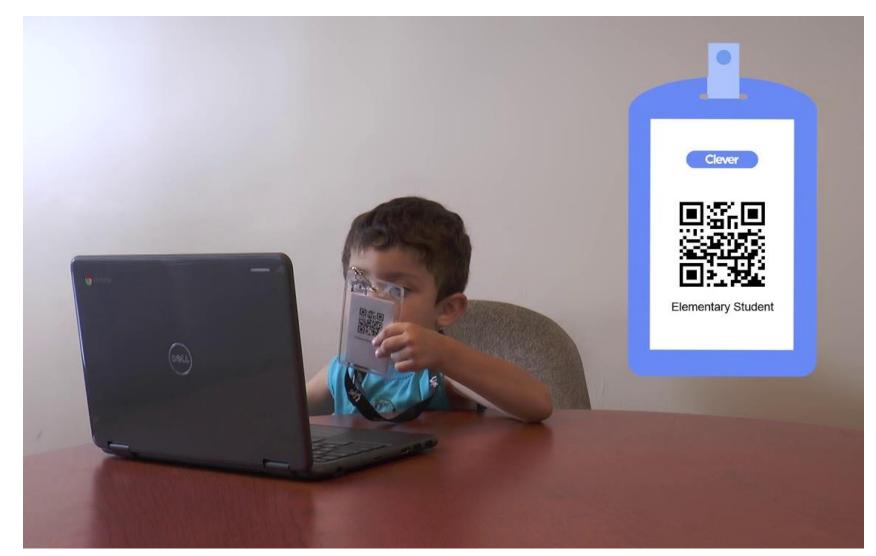
- Question: What will academic interventions look like?
- Answer: CMP will provide reading and math interventions virtually to all students in need of additional support.



- Question: Will Chromebooks be available for Students to use during Distance Learning?
- Answer: Yes, CMP purchased an additional 425 devices for students.



- Question: Can CMP's online programs be more seamless and intuitive?
- Answer: CMP will be connecting all online programs to Clever.
  Students/Families will need just one login and password.



- Question: Can assignments be easier to find and grade?
- Answer: CMP will implement Google Classroom across all schools and classrooms.



- Question: How can
  - we make the weekly schedule and resources easy to find?
- Answer: CMP will provide a one-stopshop for families to find weekly workplans and family resources.





• **Question**: How can we support staff in becoming more expert in Distance Learning instruction?

#### • Solution:

- CMP has built a bank of Distance Learning professional development trainings that can be accessed by teachers and teaching assistants anytime, anywhere.
- CMP will be dedicating its four-day August Inservice to providing teachers and teaching assistants with the support they need to start Distance Learning strong.
- CMP has invested in highly rated curriculum and robust professional development for that curriculum.

# What Can Families Expect Related to Attendance and Participation Tracking During Distance Learning?

- CMP will take daily attendance and will provide daily live instruction.
- Students will be expected to engage in learning each day, with the minimum amounts of learning time (individual work and daily live instruction) as follows (as prescribed by the California State Legislature):
  - Kindergarten 180 minutes
  - $\circ$  1<sup>st</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade 230 minutes
  - $\circ$  4<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> Grade 240 minutes
- CMP will create a bank of video lessons that families can access anywhere, anytime.
- CMP will grade student assignments.
- CMP will be utilizing new, standards based report cards.

# Club M

- In light of the new guidance from SCOE and the Governor, CMP is investigating what implications those mandates have for Club M.
- We will provide information as soon as we know!

# Social Emotional Resources Offered

- CMP has school counselors and school psychologists ready to lend a hand at every campus.
- CMP has a robust social emotional curriculum that can be taught in person or virtually at each campus.
- CMP has developed a bank of resources for families in need of support.
- CMP has developed a website dedicated to social emotional learning.



# **SAMPLE** Daily Schedule

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30- 9:00	Attendance & Circle Meeting				
9:00-11:30	Montessori Worktime				
	English Language Arts Lesson	English Language Arts Lesson	Student Support Through -	English Language Arts Lesson	English Language Arts Lesson
	Math Lesson Lesson	Math Lesson Lesson	Group Math Problem Solving:	Math Lesson Lesson	Math Lesson Lesson
	Teacher Assigned Independent Student Work	Teacher Assigned Independent Student Work	Number Talks, Case Study, Word Prolems		
			Reading/Math Support via	Teacher Assigned Independent Student Work	Teacher Assigned Independent Student Work
			Zoom		
			Cultural Zoom		
			Specific Grade Level Zoom		
			(30 minutes each)		
11:30-11:45	Read Aloud				
11:45-12:30	Whole Group Activity				
	One of the following:				
	Writing				
	Science				
	Storywork s				
	Reading Groups				
	PE				
	Counseling Lesson				
12:30-1:30	Lunch & Recess Break				
1:30-3:00	Individual Student Student Meetings via Zoom with Teacher/TA				
3:00-4:00	Teacher Prep & Parent Zoom Meeting - once a week, minimum of 15 minutes				

# Parent Acknowledgement



## Frequently Asked Questions

- CMP has received 100s of questions since we began soliciting questions last week.
- We will cover as many as we can today. We will answer every question and are creating an FAQ for our website.
- If families find this Information Session helpful we are happy to set up additional Informational Sessions where we answer more FAQs
- Please add any questions you might have into the Q&A box.
- If you have questions after this meeting ends please email them to Stephanie Garrettson at <u>sgarrettson@cacmp.org</u>



- Is my student still a CMP student during Distance Learning?
  - Yes, and we're excited to welcome students back to campus when it is deemed safe!



- If a family chooses a non-CMP homeschooling option, does the student lose enrollment at CMP? Will the Student have re-enrollment rights when CMP opens back up to in-class learnings?
  - If a family chooses not to keep the student enrolled with CMP through Distance Learning the student will need to disenroll.
  - There are no automatic re-enrollment rights. If a disenrolled student wishes to come back to CMP, the student will need to go through the lottery process.



- Does a Student risk losing enrollment if they don't participate consistently in Distance Learning?
  - CMP will be taking daily attendance and measuring student engagement.
  - CMP will be evaluating student assignments.
  - Per CDE guidelines, students will receive daily live interactions with their teacher.
  - CMP will follow an attendance review process using tiered re-engagement strategies to ensure students are able to engage in Distance Learning.
  - We strive to find ways to support our families and want each student to be successful. If you have specific concerns, please reach out to your Campus Principal.



- How can I set up my child for success during Distance Learning?
  - Students are expected to come to the live meetings prepared for school, which includes
    - Being dressed for the day...dress code and uniforms will not be enforced, but no costumes or pajamas
    - Meals eaten prior to coming to meetings
    - Sitting in a location ready to learn
    - Supplies needed for learning ready and available



- What are the expectations for students during Distance Learning?
  - Daily attendance and participation at Zoom meetings and lessons
  - Completion of Weekly Work Plans
  - Submission of assignments and requirements
  - A positive attitude!



- Is it possible for students to meet in person with teachers for meetings/office hours?
  - As it currently stands, teachers and students cannot meet in person
  - CMP will continuously monitor the guidance from CDE and public health departments and will make adjustments as allowed



- Will my student keep their teacher?
  - We strive for consistency with the classroom makeup, but we cannot make guarantees for placements.



- How will set time meetings work during Distance Learning for parents who are essential workers? Because of potential conflicts with work meetings, students may miss some CMP meetings and may need to make up work on weekends. How will CMP accommodate this?
  - CMP teachers are legally required to provide daily live interaction with students for attendance and instruction.
  - Many lessons will be recorded and can be viewed later when convenient for the family.
  - We strive to find ways to support our families and want each student to be successful. If you have specific concerns, please reach out to your Campus Principal.



- What interactions will the Students have with other students and teachers?
  - Students can interact with their classmates through daily class Zoom calls
  - Teachers will offer office hours through Zoom and/or phone calls
  - The CMP Counseling Department hosts lunch bunch opportunities for students
  - CMP will provide virtual enrichment opportunities where students can engage with each other.



- How will a teacher assess new students and know where to begin with the Montessori lessons?
  - Each teacher is unique, and your child's teacher can speak to this during the Back to School Parent Meetings
  - Some examples CMP teachers do use:
    - Montessori Kindergarten Assessment
    - Curriculum map that aligns state standards with Montessori lessons
    - iReady diagnostic assessment
    - Early literacy assessment
    - Communications with prior teachers if student was at CMP last year



- What Distance Learning tools and Learning Management Systems will CMP be utilizing?
  - Zoom for classroom meetings and delivery of instruction
  - Google classroom as the Learning Management System for delivery of and tracking of assignments
  - Clever for single sign on and ease of access to programs



- Do you feel confident Students will advance enough in the Distance Learning platform to be ready for the next grade?
  - Through a team effort and full participation **yes!**
  - Instruction is differentiated, just as when students are in classroom
  - CMP's curriculum map provides guidance for priority standards and unfinished learning
  - Reading and Math intervention programs are available for students in need
  - Teachers provide foundational lessons to ensure students are prepared for the next level of instruction
  - Social and emotional health will continue to be a priority



- Will there be parent trainings on how to support students with Distance Learning, including Montessori jobs?
  - **Yes!** CMP plans to offer ongoing parent education opportunities
    - Initial Back to School Parent Meetings August 10<sup>th</sup> 14<sup>th</sup>
    - Teachers will provide recorded lessons for students which parents can also access
    - Virtual Principal Cafes
    - Tech trainings
    - Parent resources on Distance Learning website, including behavioral supports



- Will there be certain online or virtual instruction times when the parent will need to be involved?
  - Daily instruction and meetings will be between the teacher and students
  - Parents will be invited to conferences and parent meetings
  - Teachers will connect with parents to check in



- Is there a plan for resources for new incoming families?
  - First...Welcome to CMP!
  - Each campus will reach out individually
  - Informational meeting for families new to CMP
  - Resources on supplies needed
  - Drive thru parades before first day of school to meet new teachers and pick up materials



- How will Distance Learning look for Kindergarten whose focus is more hands on (such as learning how to print, write numbers, etc.)?
  - Morning class meetings
  - Teachers will provide virtual hands on lessons
  - DIY Montessori support materials will be made available for use at home
  - Workbooks and packets will be provided, including handwriting books
  - Recorded videos of Montessori lessons will be available
  - Robust practical life program, with a focus in the home environment
  - Weekly work plan will be published in advance



- How will assignments be disseminated to the students and how will students turn in assignments when completed?
  - The details of assignment dissemination and submission will vary by campus, but some examples, may include:
    - Weekly work plans on the Distance Learning websites
    - Assignments disseminated and submitted through Google Classroom
    - Work packets picked up at campus, and submitted back to campus



- What will the first day of school be?
  - First Day of School: August 12<sup>th</sup>!



# We are creating a written FAQ page!

The document will be updated frequently with new questions and with information as we receive it. If you have further questions, please email:

Stephanie Garrettson @ <a href="mailto:sgarrettson@cacmp.org">sgarrettson@cacmp.org</a>

Following this presentation, Parents will receive an email with:

- A link to the FAQ (posted on the CMP website)
- A survey with information needed to move forward with Distance Learning