



CORNERSTONE CHARTER ACADEMY
WWW.CORNERSTONE.TEAMCEA.ORG

August 27, 2020

Dear Cardinal Community,

Let me begin by thanking all of you for your continued support throughout the start of the school year. As a school, we knew it was improbable that we would navigate this year without disruptions to the education of our students (hey, it's 2020, right?), but I have been both pleased and heartened by the response of our school community.

The Board of Directors, in conjunction with school administration, is actively planning the next steps for Cornerstone. We began this dialogue almost immediately after deciding to move into fully remote instruction, and we continued it through a meeting yesterday. As has been our practice throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we will proceed with caution. At this point in time, we have collectively agreed that it is too soon to make a determination with respect to the appropriate time to return to in-school instruction because there are several critical questions to be answered in order to make a fully informed decision.

One of the most serious considerations is whether the presence of COVID-19 in our school has resulted in any community spread. This question is important for several reasons. First, it will allow us to determine whether the careful design and implementation of our safety and cleaning protocols were effective. Second, it would allow us to determine if there was any community spread which would impact our ability to staff in-person instruction.

A second consideration is the potential impact of student movement into the fully remote instruction plan. Significant shifts into fully remote instruction have the potential to impact our ability to support both in-person and remote instruction while still maintaining adequate social distancing within the building.

Listed below are the next steps in our decision-making process and the timeline for the final determination.

- Because the incubation period for COVID-19 is considered to be 14 days, between now and Tuesday, September 1, we ask that our parents continue to monitor students for any sign of illness. If your student, or anyone in your household, demonstrates symptoms of COVID-19 (**including fever, cough, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell**) please contact a doctor. We also ask that you contact the school at 336-482-3855, so we can assess whether this could be considered a result of community spread within our building.

- On Monday, August 31, you will receive a short survey from the school via email. We ask that all families complete the answers in the survey. It will provide the Board and administration critical data on the correct course of action going forward.
- On or before the night of Wednesday, September 2, the school will communicate with the families on the return date for students.

Thank you for your continued support for Cornerstone. In the past few days, I had the opportunity to speak with the Guilford County Department of Health, and they commended not only our school's organization but also the response of our school community as a whole. They were equally complimentary of our impacted family as their foresight and proactive response prevented a larger issue within our building.

Sincerely,

Joe Caraher
Director