Parent Town Hall Meeting:

Fall Reopening

Francisco Ayala, Head of School
Lisa VanderVeen, Director of Enrollment Management

Lisa will be facilitating questions: lvanderveen@willowschool.org

July 29, 2020
Agenda

• Fall Planning Teams & Process
• Our Blended Learning Model: Flexibility & Choice
• Enhancing Our Classrooms & Campus
• Update on New Health & Safety Procedures
• What’s Next
• Q&A

Please email all questions to:
Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Fall Planning
Teams & Process

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Teams</th>
<th>Willow Reopening Safety Task Force</th>
<th>Willow Reopening Education Task Force</th>
<th>Willow Reopening Parent Feedback Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Francisco Ayala</td>
<td>Francisco Ayala</td>
<td>Francisco, Meagan, Lisa, Kerri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Meagan Coy</td>
<td>Meagan Coy</td>
<td>Sandra Jesina &amp; Inderpal Bhandari</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carol Fontaine</td>
<td>Jim Gast</td>
<td>Katherine Campagna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jim Gast</td>
<td>Jay Gaussoin</td>
<td>Stephanie Catalli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jay Gaussoin</td>
<td>Sarah Miller</td>
<td>Sarah Cox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tasha Odom</td>
<td>Tasha Odom</td>
<td>Andi Dickens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kerri O’Malley</td>
<td>Kerri O’Malley</td>
<td>Jackie Glass-LoFaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Denise Touhey</td>
<td>Denise Touhey</td>
<td>Veronica Westberg &amp; Gregory Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lisa VanderVeen</td>
<td>Lisa VanderVeen</td>
<td>Adam Kalkin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Leeanann Bartushak</td>
<td>Sally Zeiner</td>
<td>Todd Malosh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Melissa Sussex</td>
<td>Alicia Zurlo</td>
<td>Elizabeth &amp; Zac Pessin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sara Sorenson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Guiding Principles for Fall Planning

**Continued commitment** to joyful, virtues-based learning that meets the individual needs of our students and families

**Responsibility** to provide a safe and healthy experience for our students and families

**Care and attention** to foster a sense of belonging for all students

**Support** for our students, families, employees, and community during these challenging times

**Flexibility** to move seamlessly between models based on family preference and as needed

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Planning for Every Scenario

Developing a model that allows parents to choose between in-person, full school days, a robust distance learning program*, or a mix that makes sense for your family

Our Blended Learning Model for Fall 2020
Combine classroom and online education, allowing children to choose to attend class in-person or opt to attend online. Implement social distancing and other safety requirements in the classroom.

Robust Distance Learning
Building on and refining our distance learning program established in the spring, students will be able to learn remotely through a combination of daily synchronous instruction and asynchronous activities.

Return to Full In-Person Instruction
All students, faculty, and staff return to classrooms, updating our educational model and safety procedures with new best practices as applicable. Possible continuation of distance learning option as needed by the Willow community.

*All students will be equipped to transition to distance learning if government mandates a shutdown or during quarantine

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Our Blended Learning Model

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Different Modalities of Instruction

- In-Person Classroom Model
- Web-Enhanced Model
- Blended or Hybrid Model
- Distance Learning Model

Synchronous Distributed Model

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Willow’s Blended Learning Model

Prioritizes Choice & Flexibility for Families

Built to Meet Changing Circumstances

Delivers Mission-Driven, Student-Centered Learning

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
The Promise of Our Model

Whether your child is in our classrooms or connecting to campus from home, Willow’s blended learning model will provide mission-driven, student-centered education.

We are committed to ensuring that all of our students:

• Experience the wonder of the natural world with meaningful learning outdoors
• Experience the joy of learning in a hands-on, collaborative environment
• Grow into leaders with character through our integrated, practiced Virtues Program
• Deepen their critical thinking and creative problem solving skills through systems thinking and project-based learning
• Develop strong relationships with their teachers and receive individualized, differentiated instruction that fits how they learn best
• Feel a strong sense of belonging in our community that celebrates their growth and individuality
• Thrive in a healthy learning environment that prioritizes wellness, emphasizes stretch versus stress, and employs a balanced approach to technology

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Supporting Flexible Blended Learning

- Alignment of in-person and virtual learning schedules
- Increased technology to improve integration
- Incorporating additional digital learning resources
- Clear articulation of learning outcomes
- Collaborative planning
- Providing opportunities for small group work and one-to-one time for students who are fully virtual

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Enhancing Our Classrooms & Campus

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Integrating Technology, Intentionally

Continued commitment to **hands-on, experiential, project-based learning** for students in the classroom and at home.

Simply integrating **video conferencing software** to bring remote learners into the classroom for direct instruction and project work **at key periods** throughout the day.

Maintain a relatively **normal in-person classroom schedule** and allow for **healthy screen breaks at home**.

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
New Technology Enhancements

- Students Grades K + 1 each assigned a android tablet
- Students Grades 2-8 each assigned a Chromebook
- New laptops, tablets, and bluetooth microphones for teachers to enhance virtual experience
- Classrooms equipped with webcams and video conferencing technology
- Improved WiFi speed in classrooms (20x faster)
- Additional outdoor WiFi hotspots
- Training on new technology for teachers

Willow will continue to use Zoom, Seesaw (PreK-1), Google Classroom (Grades 2-8)

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Even More Outdoor Instruction

Unlike other schools, **Willow is already designed for and regularly practices outdoor learning.** We will support continued outdoor instruction by:

- Increasing commitment to outdoor, experiential learning
- Ensuring all classes have dedicated access to outdoor spaces
- Increasing outdoor teaching spaces
  - Permanent outdoor classroom
  - Temporary/modular outdoor classrooms
- Providing frequent opportunities throughout the day for outdoor play

**Thank you to Willow Parents Glenn Likus and Adam Kalkin!**

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
New Health & Safety Procedures

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Our policies are guided by our virtues and care for our community of students, educators, and families. We are committed to meeting and exceeding regulatory mandates and guidelines to mitigate risk of transmission while at Willow.

Risk of transmission increases with extended person-to-person exposure in enclosed spaces.

How can we increase distancing where possible and add safety measures where it is not? (e.g. social distancing, masks, classroom design)

How can we track and minimize exposure? (e.g. daily health checks)

How can we reduce the number of extended interactions across multiple groups? (e.g. cohorts)

How can we capitalize on our deep experience in outdoor learning and make our indoor spaces as healthy as possible? (e.g. improved air ventilation)

We need your support to get the maximum benefit out of these policies.

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Enhanced Cleaning and Supplies

- **Ensure the school stays properly supplied with certified green cleaning supplies** that have been proven to effectively sterilize hands and surfaces
  - Soap and hand sanitizer
  - Paper towels and tissues
  - Disinfectant cleaner
  - No-touch/foot-pedal trash cans
- **Increase cleaning and disinfection** of the campus and classrooms
  - Includes disinfecting of high-touch surfaces throughout the day
- **Cleaning integrated into classroom routines**, with teachers provided a store of cleaning supplies to clean classroom surfaces and materials throughout the day

*Thank you to Willow Parents Josie Youssef & Richard Higgs!*

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Improved Air Purification System

We are exploring installing a new hydrogen-peroxide air purification system to neutralize airborne contagions, connected to our existing state-of-the-art ventilation system.

- All classrooms have multiple windows
- Faculty encouraged to keep windows open throughout the day
- Windows in common areas like hallways, etc. will be open during school hours, weather permitting

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
New Health & Safety Policies

- Ensure staff and families are aware of and appropriately following CDC guidelines for when they should stay home and when they can return to school
- Flexibility about sick time and PTO to encourage employees to stay home as needed
- Flexibility about grading and attendance policies for students

Prior to the start of school, with the support of our school nurses, we will clearly articulate criteria and symptoms requiring that students and faculty stay home and a clear exposure protocol should a student or teacher be diagnosed with COVID.

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Thoughtful Approach to Masks

Outdoor instruction and thoughtful policies around masks in the classroom will give our students ample opportunities to be mask-free throughout the day while keeping our community safe.

Students will be required to wear masks except when:

- Outdoors, as long as social distancing is maintained
- Students are seated at desks enclosed by plastic dividers spaced six feet apart OR wearing face shields at desks spaced six feet apart (e.g. lunch and snack)

*We will purchase gaiters for students and have extra masks on hand. We are exploring face shields as a viable alternative to masks.*

Teachers and staff will wear masks at all times in school buildings and when social distancing cannot be maintained outdoors.

*Preschool student mask requirements are still being determined.*

*Subject to new health information and government regulations*
When Your Family Arrives

Daily health screenings
• Parents and faculty will complete a daily health questionnaire prior to coming to school
• Temperatures of students and faculty will be taken at drop off

Adjusting drop-off and pick-up procedures to limit contact and allow time for health screenings, including:
• Eliminating early drop-off option
• Only preschool parents allowed in the building for pick-up/drop-off
• Defined pick-up/drop-off locations per grade: West End (PreK); Carline (Grades K-3); Barn (Grades 4-5); HWNC (Middle School)
• Students report directly to classrooms, dismissed from classrooms

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Classroom Cohorts

Cohorting: having the same group of children stay with the same staff as much as possible during the school day

• Students will stay in classroom-based cohorts throughout the day
• Staff will cycle into grade-based classrooms more often vs. students changing rooms
  • Many specials teachers will cycle into the classroom or teach outdoors
  • Establish grade classrooms in Middle School, eliminate moving students (10 min. breaks)
• Modifying lunch and recess to keep students in cohorts

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Social Distancing in the Classroom

Committing to implementing new rules with compassion and encouraging students to engage, socialize, play, and collaborate

- Visual aides in classroom/shared spaces to support social distancing
- Desks provided in all classrooms, spaced six feet apart
  - Foldable barriers provided for lunch/as needed
- Providing additional, dedicated space for each Lower School class
- All bathrooms made single-use and dedicated to specific cohorts
- Reducing shared objects in classroom with individual student supply lists, increased supply of classroom materials
  - Cleaning and disinfecting necessary shared objects between use

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Serving Lunch in the Classroom

*Continued commitment to healthy lunch program that aligns with Willow’s mission*

- **New food vendor** will provide lunches pre-packaged in compostable containers, delivered to classrooms
  - Lunch split into multiple periods to stagger when classes are eating
  - Choose lunch preferences from weekly menu
  - Students encouraged to bring in reusable silverware, cloth napkins
- Students can also bring lunch from home, following allergy policies
- Classes **encouraged to eat outdoors when possible**
  - Plastic dividers will be provided when eating in the classroom

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Safe & Healthy Recess

Recess twice a day remains central to Willow’s commitment to a healthy learning environment for our students

- Increase number of recess periods to reduce number of students at recess at once while giving all students ample free time to play
- Students will stay in cohorts at recess
- Faculty will facilitate games that naturally encourage social distancing
- Students who want to engage in free play without social distancing will be required to wear masks; students who are social distancing will not be required to wear masks

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
Rethinking Community Gatherings

Committed to a strong sense of community and creative solutions to keep us connected

● Maintain the spirit of Morning Gathering, virtually and in smaller classroom groups
● Plan for creative virtual or outdoor solutions to our traditional community events, guided by current regulations regarding gatherings
● Limit nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations to reduce exposure
● Pursue opportunities for virtual activities/speakers in lieu of field trips

Please email questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.
What’s Next

- Current plans, recording posted on our website this week
- **New survey** asking for feedback on what we shared today
- Bi-weekly email updates as Task Force continues to plan
- Parent Task Force developing Community Agreements
- **Complete Reopening Plan + August 12th Town Hall Meeting**

---

**Town Hall Meeting**

August 12, 2020 • 5 p.m.

*Current families will receive an email with a link to attend the meetings. If you are not currently enrolled, but interested in learning more, fill out the inquiry below!"
Questions?
Please email all questions to Lisa VanderVeen at lvanderveen@willowschool.org.