



# RESHET PRIZMAH

## July 15 Heads of Small Schools Conversations Notes

- We welcomed new members to the call, Jullie Pollack, Jennah Schuh, Brian Cohen and Gerri Chizeck

How are you handling the anxiety the staff are expressing on returning to school

- Town Halls to show total transparency of process and plans
- Over communicating
- Wish there could be a mandatory shutdown so we did not have to make these decisions
- There is a recent shift from wanting to return in person to now a lot of hesitancy on both the part of staff and students; even from parents who were on the task forces
- Allow teachers to have a voice; meet with them to allow them to voice their concerns
- Figure out if there are solutions that can be solved by money or logistics or decide what just cannot work; share
- Still worried if not in person parents will go to public school
- Who makes the hard decisions?
- We keep hearing it is safe for kids, but what about teachers? And if not safe for teachers how is it safe for kids?
- Some courses can be taught online, especially for older students, but not in lower grades; how can some teachers be told they can stay home and not others; morale

How are you sharing information?

- Slowly and consistently
- Over communicate
- Be honest; this is today's plan and it will change
- Show options and will let you know as soon as we are able to
- Planning for distance opportunities and giving kids a zoom buddy who will be in the class
- Letting them know we will livestream: Camera - Logitech BRIO Ultra HD - \$294.99, wireless microphone system KIMAFUN 2.4G Wireless Lavalier Microphone with Lavalier lapel mic - \$59.99 - plus a laptop; also swivels, owls, jabra
- Being clear that if we go back in person and you can teach, you need to find childcare if your children are at home

- Concern that parents will be able to see whole classrooms and watch kids and teachers; some setting up the camera just to see the teacher, but others whole rooms; is this a privacy issue?

How are you monitoring daily health checks?

- Online form every morning before arrival; bought infrared thermometers and will take temps of all kids and adults each day
- Have a classroom set aside as an isolation room
- If sent home, need a doctor's note to return
- Will have a form that says no fever reducing meds were take 8 hours before the start of school
- Looking for an app for this as reading all the forms each day is time consuming and who will do it? <https://www.mymedbot.lu/>
- Parents take the temp in the car and show us the thermometer
- Asking all families and staff if they traveled to any hot spots to quarantine for 14 days before the start of school

Other topics:

- Be sure the is board support and buy in for all hard decisions to protect yourself and have sound partnership; consensus matters
- Worried about children with sensory issues and the masks, shields, etc
- Teachers are essential workers and must be treated with as such
- Taking care of the physical environment of my school so that everyone knows we are taking care of them; program comes next; prepare for a healthy environment, more windows, ventilation, flexible teaching spaces and use of outdoors
- Revisiting policies on vaccinations, sick days and hazard pay
- Providing mental health services to our teachers; working with JFS
- Small Folding Beach chairs on back to school supply lists
- Reminded of Day School Docs and Ritual reshets