



RESHET PRIZMAH

August 5, 2020

Heads of Small Schools

- Schools are beginning to open! Bornblum, Fridel and Jewish Academy Orlando all begin either with students or teachers next week;
- Still frustration with cities and states without clear mandates; Omaha has no mask mandate; in NY State the governor will mandate if they can open
- Use of alumni or college students: JAO was approached in the spring by a local Hillel and used their students as online tutors; will expand that as they open; Fridel figuring out how to use alumni to give lunch breaks; Ann Arbor wants to use college students but worried about more people coming in the building (and parents voiced that concern as well)
- Concerns over before and after care; some after care hosted at JCC and that would mix kids; many schools cancelling before care and having after care in same pods as classes
- Have not heard too much about pandemic pods, but do worry if they have to go fully remote if that might become an issue; Some families have said homeschooling with a group will be better for younger children than online learning; A few heads have heard of parents trying to get one of their teachers to come and work for them teaching a group of students who had been in public school; other school seeing K students whom they hopped would stay but never committed, not remaining in the school and forming a pod.
- Boom in interest has been great; will they stay? Have to integrate those with little to no Hebrew background. Charlotte doing online tutoring now (20+ new kids!) before school starts utilizing retired teachers and will continue this as an after school program
- How will we integrate the students learning from home while the rest of the school is in person? Bornblum “*Limud Mishulav* Integrated Learning” program with very specific expectations set out for the students and parents (wear school uniforms, be at a desk, have supplies, be ON the computer for all classes, including when the class goes outside) and will have an addendum in the handbook with a signature to indicate it has been read; Charlotte hired a teacher to be with the at home kids and will have a combination of synchronous learning with that teacher and zooming into classes. Fridel having live streaming time for core classes/instruction only

- Concern that the technology being set up for at home (camera, etc) could be a distraction; fear that the kids at home will feel left out; many using zoom buddies
- Many specials not being taught in person for concern that those teachers teach too many children; will either be taught from home or remotely in the school or from outside;
- concern of not treating all faculty the same; different legal guidance at each school
- Ended with thinking of what we are excited about and what is making us happy: kids, seeing the kids! A new space in the school; necklaces with each child's face so we can see them! A car parade to welcome back the faculty and staff

Reminder: no meeting next week due to Prizmah staff retreat and there will be a new login for the calls beginning August 19. I will send it and you will get it in Prizmah emails, but you will have to re-register for the calls to receive it.