



LA CIMA ELEMENTARY CHARTER SCHOOL

2020 – 2021

February 10th, 2021

Dear La Cima Families and Caregivers,

Thank you for partnering with us as we work to surmount the obstacle of educating our scholars during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are so grateful for your recent feedback on the remote learning experience survey. We received a record number of responses. As such, we feel confident in the decisions we have made and will make about the remote learning for the 20-21 academic year.

Please be advised that **La Cima will remain 100% remote for the remainder of the 20-21 school year.** The leadership team considered several data points to make our decision about returning to in-person learning for Trimester 3.

Survey results from La Cima Community: Our surveys were designed to gather information from all stakeholders about whether to continue with remote learning; the quality of our remote learning program and any reflections on what to continue and ways to improve.

The majority of parents, as well as La Cima Staff, indicated the preference for remote learning. Be advised that our operations team have worked tirelessly to ensure that we secured a federal grant that has covered, literally, *thousands of PPE items* that have already been delivered to La Cima prior to the winter break in anticipation of a March opening. Since we are not returning in March, those items will be stored for use for when we are back in the building. While PPE is within our control, the vaccination rollout is not and we are mindful that the slow roll out is directly linked to our ability to re-enter safely. In addition, as a result of your feedback we are continuing with the current schedule and making the change of extending lunch by 15-minutes. Updated schedule information will be sent to your child's Google Classroom after the winter break.

Requirements for Hybrid Learning: Hybrid-learning requires more staff than 100% remote or 100% in-person. In order to effectively deliver a hybrid model, it would require teachers to split their time between scholars who are in person and scholars who will remain remote. We find this to be an undue strain to put on teachers especially as we implement a new curriculum. In addition to considering staffing requirements for hybrid learning, we also considered our co-location. Because we share the building with two other schools, there may be some challenges to ensuring everyone is following the same playbook as it relates to COVID-safe procedures. All three schools have maintained a great partnership during this pandemic and we are hopeful that this partnership will continue when we are all back safely.

Scientific Data in NYC: We are certainly encouraged by the declining numbers of COVID cases in NYC as well as the decline in hospitalizations. Barring any new data that shares different information, we are confident that increased access to vaccination and a continued decline in cases will allow us to re-open safely in the fall.

We look forward to communicating important updates with you regarding our school re-opening through the end of the school year and during the summer. Please stay tuned to our website and communication received via SchoolMessenger.

Until then, please stay safe and be well.

In Partnership,

Principal Belle

