



# IMPORTANT

September 30, 2020

Dear Finn Families,

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we have navigated reopening and the start to this unprecedented year. As our local community continues to experience spikes in positive cases, we have had to evolve our planning and preparation. With the stringent protocols and procedures in place to limit exposure, we have already had many members of our scholar and staff community be restricted from being in the building in person. While it is important that we remain vigilant when it comes to the health and safety of all, it does pose challenges for staffing within the building. Due to this, there may come a time in which the school cannot support in-person instruction at a certain grade level, or school-wide, due to a lack of staffing. In the past, we have utilized a variety of strategies to ensure coverage for staff absences, such as combining of crews, guest teachers, crossing of instructional staff, and several more. With the necessity of taking precautions to prevent the spread of illness through restricting the crossing of cohorts, and limiting multiple exposure points for staff, our coverage abilities are drastically limited.

We continue to proactively address any capacity issues and will work to avoid having to initiate such an emergency closure to the extent possible. In the event that it cannot be avoided, the school will notify families in a similar manner to snow day and weather delay notification; via Kayambu, voice broadcast, and Finn Academy Facebook page. We understand a partial or full closure could pose challenges and hardships for families, and as such, we will expedite communication as quickly as possible. Please be mindful, however, that there is the potential to have to initiate a closure, and notify families, with very limited notice – i.e. in the morning prior to the school day starting.

Instruction will continue during an emergency closure in the remote setting. Instructional staff have been actively preparing and acclimating scholars to the online learning platform being utilized by our remote crews, so that there is limited disruption to learning if we need to initiate a temporary switch to remote due to a closure. For scholars in need of access to a device, we will arrange for an immediate pick-up.

As we forge ahead navigating this uncharted territory, we will continue to have to make difficult and in-the-moment decisions; they may not always be favorable or most convenient, but please know that they will always be in the best interest of the health and safety of our scholars, staff, families, and our community at large.

As a reminder, at this time, we cannot honor any requests for scholars to switch instructional models, unless there is a confirmed medical condition or legitimate hardship to families. We want to be flexible and accommodating and will review instructional models again at the end of the first marking period.

Thank you again for your continued partnership and commitment to Finn.

Best,

*Aimee Ciarlo*

Aimee Ciarlo

*Martina Baker*

Martina Baker

*Jeremy Wheeler*

Jeremy Wheeler