

Hello Utah!

1 - At our July Board meeting, the Timp Academy school board approved our school re-opening plan for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year. As required, the approved plan outlined WHAT the school will do to meet all State health directives and requirements for re-opening. (We will be posting this plan on our website soon.)

2 - Now that the "WHAT we will do" has been approved, we have begun working on exactly "HOW" we will be implementing that plan. As you can imagine, and because the devil is always in the details, this "How to" planning phase is an on-going process and will evolve over time as we figure out how best to continue providing a great education during these crazy times.

3 - HOWEVER, while we work through these details, there are TWO things that are firmly set and are important for parents to know right now for their planning purposes:

*** First, here at Timp Academy, the upcoming school year will be 100% "In-the-classroom" educational instruction.** (i.e. there will NOT be any on-line or remote learning instruction options.)

*** Second, there will be no change to the daily schedules.** The approved reopening plan states: "Timp Academy has no plans to disrupt existing schedules so as to maintain consistency for families."

This is because we believe a stable schedule that families can rely on is a crucial component for a successful school year. Accordingly, there are no "staggered schedules" or "alternating day" scenarios.

For all 1st through 6th grade students, school will continue to be in session from 8:00am to 3:00pm on Mondays through Thursdays, and from 8:00am to Noon on Fridays.

For Kindergarten students, Morning (AM) Kindergarten will continue to be from 8:00am to 11:00am on Monday through Thursday, while Afternoon (PM) Kindergarten classes will continue to be from Noon to 3:00pm on those same days. (AM and PM Kindergarten will continue to alternate attendance on alternate Fridays.)

4 - It is important to note that there are two main reasons that we are proceeding with "100% in-the-classroom instruction" plans:

* First, and most importantly, we believe it is abundantly clear that education provided in the classroom is superior and more effective than what could be provided on-line or through remote learning.

* Second, our charter does not allow us to operate in any other way. Offering on-line or remote learning must be specified in a school's approved charter, which is why there are specific "On-Line" Charter Schools' that have been approved to operate here in Utah. (The only reason we used remote learning at the end of last year is because the Governor's executive order suspended the law and mandated that all schools do so)

5 - Because of COVID concerns, families that would prefer an on-line or remote learning environment can enroll in one of the existing on-line Charter Schools that are set up specifically to provide that type of learning. Alternatively, it's possible that the local public school districts may offer some sort of on-line options, and/or some families may prefer homeschooling during this time.

6 - As always, we support parent's rights to choose whatever education works best for their students and/or their circumstances.

Thank you!