



Dear Parents,

We are very excited to announce our formal plans to reopen Linden Hall for the 2020-2021 school year. These past few months have been extremely challenging and difficult for everyone, and we are thrilled to share some positive news about returning to our beautiful campus in Lititz, PA.

Linden Hall is on schedule to have our students (returning and new) present on campus for the start of the fall semester as planned in August. **Please know that the safety and well-being of our school community is our main priority.** Much research, consideration, and planning has gone into developing the protocols and procedures for the 2020-2021 year by our COVID-19 Task Force. Our return to campus will look different from prior opening years; however, these procedures are being put in place to protect our students and faculty. While you will continue to receive information throughout the summer addressing our new safety procedures for daily life at Linden Hall, we have information below to share with you regarding the start of the school year and our plan for meeting the needs of all our students so that you can begin to make your plans.

I know that the big question on everyone's mind (mine included) centers around what classes will look like this fall. Because recommendations, requirements, and information are changing on an almost-daily basis, we do not have firm answers. **However, I can tell you this:**

- **We want to see students on campus.** Right now, all indications are that we will be able to accommodate all students on campus for part of the day, part of the week, or all the time. There may be some class time that is live and in-person and some class time that is at a distance, either synchronous or asynchronous. We will know more the closer we get to the start of school and will keep the community informed as we define our journey. In a webinar I attended this morning, one international Head of School spoke powerfully about how meaningful it was when students were able to return to the classroom. **We look forward to seeing our girls.** Look for more information in a few weeks.
- **We will support students who cannot be on campus.** We never expected to shift to distance learning, but the Linden Hall community did quite well with it this spring! Based upon our lessons learned, we know that we will be able to support the learning experience of students unable to return to campus on time. If a student is not on campus, she may receive some of her learning differently than her peers, but our goal is to keep her on track to join her Linden Hall sisters seamlessly when she arrives. With your support as parents, we will meet this goal. If you believe your student falls in this category, please reach out to Ms. Natasha Solomon, Dean of Students, at nsolomon@lindenhall.org to ensure that we are aware of your family's situation.

Several families have asked about tuition credits heading into this fall if campus is not able to open. Because we can accommodate the return of students to campus, we are not offering tuition credits.

As we open campus to faculty and staff this summer, our Linden Hall community has been adhering to social distancing protocols, wearing masks, washing and disinfecting hands, and a strict cleaning and disinfecting routine throughout the campus and dormitories. Expectations for visitors to campus are posted to ensure that anyone from outside the school will follow our requirements.

We plan on keeping health and safety protocols in place as the school year begins.

- We anticipate that there will be an expectation of regular, documented temperature checks and other symptom monitoring for all members of the Linden Hall community. We are currently in conversation with our health partners at Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health (LGH) about these expectations and will have more information in the coming weeks.
- All students, faculty, and staff can expect to return to school this fall with the understanding that we will wear masks when indoors. Additionally, students and faculty will be expected to participate in surface cleaning in the classroom as a part of class changes. Part of Orientation Week this fall will include training for everyone on these new procedures.
- Members of the Linden Hall community will be expected to adhere to protocols of social distancing on campus as mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. We will share particulars about what this means and how it will impact our classes later this summer.

Lititz is reaching for an anticipated Green Phase of reopening soon. The impact of COVID-19 in Lancaster County has been centered on the large number of retirement and nursing home communities within the county. In town, our beloved stores and restaurants are slowly beginning to open. My family enjoyed Roma's pizza for dinner last Friday, and I'm happy to see Aaron's Books reopening its doors for customers today. Ms. Solomon gleefully reports that Rooster Street is expanding their menu and the General Sutter has opened its patio.

Protests in Lititz as a part of the Black Lives Matter movement have been peaceful. It is heartwarming to see our diverse community coming together to support this essential message. We are safe here in Lititz and have a very supportive police force, which is comforting to know as a teacher and mother.

We are excited to welcome your daughters back to school and will have more information for you in the coming weeks. Enjoy the shift in the season as the days lengthen and the temperature rises.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Beth' or 'Elizabeth', with a stylized, cursive script.

Elizabeth E. Teske
Assistant Head of School for Academics