



Dear Sacramento Waldorf School Families,

As we enter a pivotal week in preparation for Tuesday, September 1, SWS is on a solid and responsible planning trajectory in our Reopening Planning. Your survey results allow us to fine-tune schedules and student groupings as we align our SWS offerings with the needs of our school families. As each new draft update is being made, we are determined to make value-driven decisions in service to our school as a whole. These decisions are made with authentic integration and consideration of the following priorities:

- Thorough measures to ensure the health and safety of every community member,
- Impact on student learning and social experience,
- Home and work-life of our school parents, and
- Employee work conditions.

As you all know, Sacramento County must be off of the monitor list for 14 days prior to our first day of school in order for us to provide the On-Campus Learning option.

At the close of day this past Friday, we were in communication with Sacramento County Health Department in hopes of receiving their most updated information regarding the elementary school waiver process. They were expecting to have received the criteria for waivers by that date and had not. We will check back with them tomorrow.

Our waiver is prepared for submission as soon as the criteria is released. Sacramento Waldorf School is fully dedicated to the safety of our students, faculty, and the greater school community. All developing policies and procedures are cross-referenced with local and state guidelines to ensure we are holding the best interest of our community at the center of our efforts.

Dedication to holding the highest standards in our academic programming is paramount. The SWS Curriculum Benchmark Committee has completed a comprehensive re-alignment of our content objectives. This work serves to strengthen the foundation of our enhanced On-Campus format, Inclusion format, and School-to-Home (distance learning) format.

The schedules for our Early Childhood through High School programming will be confirmed this week. The results of our August Reopening Survey allows the faculty and staff to develop accurate lists for student groupings and affirm scheduling plans.

2020-2021 Programming Options | A Brief Overview

On-Campus Learning Program for All Grades:

When Sacramento County has been off the monitor list for 14 consecutive days, we will return to our beautiful campus. On-Campus learning will take place in outdoor spaces, follow sanitation and hygiene procedures, be physically arranged to create appropriate distance, and maintain learning group structure. (At SWS, our *Pods/cohorts* are referred to as *learning groups*.)

*Some middle school and high school courses will be online in this model to maintain learning group structure and academic excellence.

Inclusion Program:

A distance learning option is available to families when SWS is running the On-Campus Learning Program. Sacramento Waldorf School is committed to providing an alternative to families who are unable to enroll their children in our On-Campus Learning Program due to immunocompromised students or family members, or other reasons related to COVID-19 that prevent students from attending On-Campus programming.

- The **SWS Distance Learning Best Practices Group** and **SWS Tech Team** are uniting forces to ensure high-quality distance learning through our Inclusion Program offerings.
- Inclusion Program students will have opportunities for full class Zoom experiences to support individual and class social-emotional health.
- SWS will hold regularly scheduled Supply and Equipment Pick up days for these students.

School-to-Home Program| Distance Learning:

This format will be employed for all students when required by county and state guidelines. Lessons will be held online, and materials will be made available to support the curriculum as needed through monthly Supply Pick Up and Drop Off events for all our distance learners.

Waiver for On-Campus Learning for grades K-6*:

If we are granted an exemption allowing us to be on campus while the county of Sacramento is still on the monitor list:

- Classes will be predominately outdoors
- Students and employees will be wearing face coverings,
- Enhanced hygiene and sanitation procedures will be followed,
- Physical distancing will occur through classroom arrangement and in accordance with child developmental needs, and
- Students will maintain consistent learning groups.

***Exemption Required** - only available for K-6 in the state of California and is **not yet obtained**.

We remain optimistic on the grounds of our SWS history and the SCDH and CDPH approval of our July Outdoor Summer Program. SWS submitted a reapplication for our summer program after Governor Newsom's 7.17.20 announcement and it was fully granted given our full adherence to county guidelines.

The **SWS Distance Learning Best Practices Group** and the **SWS Tech Team** have been working diligently to strengthen the infrastructure and improve the delivery of our distance learning model and imbue it with the depth and warmth that Waldorf education brings to the world.

We look forward to presenting the full 2020 Reopening Plan at our Thursday, Town Hall meeting.

In gratitude,

Dean Smith High School Administrator
Kat McFee Lower School Administrator