



Reopening Plan 2020-21

August 2020

Dear Families of Eaton Arrowsmith – Redmond, WA,

We hope your summer has been a time for relaxation, family connection and maybe a little fun? According to our recent survey, it looks like most of you have had a fun summer and are also eager to get back to school. We agree with you there! Your support in re-opening Eaton Arrowsmith-Redmond is essential!

Within the past month or so we have received recommendations for school re-opening from the CDC, the WA Department of Health, the state Office of Public Instruction (OSPI) and from the WA Federation of Independent Schools (WFIS). While there is no definitive model suggested, there is clear guidance for what needs to be in place to keep children and teachers as safe as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic. If our in-person summer program was an indication, the safety protocols that we are implementing at Eaton Arrowsmith-Redmond are manageable and effective with this small group.

As you may have heard, most of the local public schools have announced their decisions not to reopen in-person this fall. According to all state officials, however, the decisions at the district level do not impact private schools' ability to make this determination independently. The official guidance is that if a school (public or private) can reasonably meet requirements for distancing and health protocols they can open for instruction safely.

The staff at EA-Redmond has been meeting over the past two weeks to decipher what reopening model is reasonable for our site. We have considered our experience from last spring, survey input from EA families, feedback from the EA Leadership Team, our summer program experience, and all available expert guidance to settle on a plan that we believe addresses the unique needs and circumstances of our EA community.

EA-Redmond will open in September initially with:

- Junior Class (ages 7-11) in-person daily (M-F)
- Senior Classes A (ages 12-14) and Class B (ages 15 and up) also in-person daily (M-F)
- Students in high risk categories will be included in an equitable manner.

We have reorganized our classrooms and common spaces such that we can keep these small cohort groups separated and minimize shared spaces which we believe can be reasonably managed in terms of distancing and health protocols. We will also be training staff, students, and parents to transition quickly and smoothly to fully online in case of an emergency as part of our pandemic protocol.

The health and safety of our students, staff, and families must always be our highest priority, followed closely by cognitive growth and the social/emotional well-being of our community. These are the guiding principles of Eaton Arrowsmith in this decision.

Warm regards,

Tracy McCammant  
Principal/Director – Redmond, WA