

# Fall 2020 Happenings

June 23, 2020

## *Special points of interest:*

- First Day of School August 12th, 2020
- Last Day of School May 27th, 2021
- No changes to the holiday schedules
- Adding 7th Grade
- Absence Credits Now Available
- 50% of our families participated in our survey!



*School is a building with four walls and tomorrow inside.*

*-Lon Watters*



We have some great news to share! We will be returning to in person classes in the Fall of 2020. Our first day of school is August 12th. This aligns with the calendar we had previously posted prior to Spring Break. The only change we are making to our calendar is to extend the year through Thursday, May 27th. Our previous release date was May 25th. This builds 2 extra days in regardless of any closures we may incur.

Our ultimate goal is to continue providing our students the warm, caring and engaging atmosphere that makes Sherwood so unique. During our summer adventure camps we have had the opportunity to work the kinks out of check in procedures, class sizes and transition periods to continue providing the most “normal” school experience

possible while keeping everyone safe and healthy! We will continue our morning and afternoon health checks, we always have and always will wash hands very regularly including when first arriving at school and before going home. We always have and always will utilize the best and safest cleaning products on the market. Our primary sanitizer used for counter and table tops in classrooms and on backpacks each morning is an odorless, EPA rated, food surface safe disinfectant and sanitizer that kills bacteria and viruses within 1 minute. Toys that have been placed in the mouth, coughed on or sneezed on are removed from play and washed with soap and water. We also have two steam sanitizers on hand to disinfect toys throughout the day. Each evening our buildings are cleaned by a

professional service that also utilizes high quality virucide products. This is the same company and crew we have used for years. Finally, we have Reme Halo air sanitizing systems on all six of our air conditioning units. In addition we have Germ Guardian air sanitizing units in each classroom without a direct return air vent.

Our stringent health policy will remain in effect. Additionally, we will continue to conduct routine temperature checks throughout the day and will require students who have sick families members at home, to remain home until the incubation period for whatever communicable illness they may have has passed and the child is clear. Please keep in mind, we still have several weeks before school starts and these policies will be fine tuned as we navigate this new awareness. Not just of covid, but of all com-

## **Survey Results!**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our online survey! We are using the results to form our plan of action for now and for moving forward into the fall. It is very obvious from the survey that we all have a common goal; to provide the children a safe yet warm and stable learning environment with in person classroom experiences and socialization opportunities! Many of the

results were pretty evenly divided. It is incredibly heart warming to see how trusting you all are of Sherwood and our mission to educate each and every child. Your trust is not taken lightly and we are honored.

A whopping 90% have asked for a traditional school calendar as well as no masks on teachers or children With those results in

mind, our mask policy will remain the same. Students are not required to wear masks, teachers have the ability to make the personal choice to wear one or not. Should the county or our licensing authority enact a mandatory mask policy, we will revisit and make decisions that will enable us to comply with regulations AND be in the best interest of the children.

municable diseases. Since we reopened on May 4th, we have seen a sharp decline in student and staff illnesses, in fact, it has been nearly zero. This is a pattern seen not just here, but has also been reported during training sessions by other directors across the state. This can be attributed to various factors including extra vigilance in keeping unwell kids home. Keeping kids home who have been around other ill people in their household, increased handwashing, heightened sanitation measures at school and at home along with the reduction of adult traffic in and out of buildings. We are currently still restricting access into the buildings, though we are working on a plan to safely allow a parent to walk a child to their classroom the first week of school. We are also doing our part to limit traffic by scheduling tours and maintenance needs after hours as much as possible!

***Find us on one of our social media platforms for more updates and information!***



## Future Closures & Tuition

On March 6, 2020 we all said our good-byes and wished everyone an amazing Spring Break. Never in a million years was it imagined that we would not return. We quickly found that no written policy can truly cover every potential incidence, even those that are the most thorough.

We quickly worked to put a plan in place, offering activity pack pickup, zoom visits with classmates and teachers, online instruction through Seesaw and countless circle time videos and activity ideas posted on social media. All of this was done as we issued full tuition credits for all the time we were closed and continued to pay full salaries of all staff. Some of our families opted to donate their credits back to Sherwood to help cover operating costs and for that we are incredibly grateful!

Moving forward, we do not anticipate a closure in excess of 2 weeks. Besides being a private school, we are also a licensed childcare facility. This license allows us to remain open when

many others can not. Moving forward, the following will apply.

Closure up to two weeks, no credits or refunds will be issued.

Closure by a higher authority exceeding two weeks will result in tuition credits being applied to each family's account for the time we are closed in excess of two weeks.

Upon return, students eligible to return, but opting not to return will be required to pay tuition at a 50% rate to hold their spot and home activities will be provided.

During any of these closures (forced or optional) we will continue to provide an online presence as well as make physical activities ready for pick up or delivery (yes, I said delivery!).

At Sherwood we don't just pride our selves on being great educators, we pride ourselves on good business practices. We will always be fair to all of our families and do what is right regardless of circumstances.



## Attendance, Make Up Work & Homework

We will now offer sick credits to students who are absent due to illness. Sick kids DO NOT need to come to school! The number of sick credits families are entitled to depend on the number of days per week their child attends. These credits are per child. Students will be eligible for one sick credit per day of the week they attend school. For example; a M/W/F student will receive 3 sick credits per school year. Parents must inform us when their child is out sick that they would like to utilize these sick credits on their next invoice cycle. Pay in full families will receive a refund by check at the next monthly billing cycle for sick credits used.

If your child is out for any reason we ask that you please call or email. It is imperative that we are able to accurately track even the smallest sniffle to be sure everything that needs extra

sanitation, receives it!

We recognize that our classroom attendance may shift dramatically. We may see longer periods of absences as students heal 100% before attending school. With this in mind, we are anticipating using our Seesaw platform (K-7) to provide home studies for students who are out sick. Make up work will be loaded into each child's account. Seesaw is the platform we quickly switched to when we had to close so unexpectedly. An incredible majority of parents who utilized the platform have expressed how pleased they were with it.

Our elementary students, K-7 will continue to have homework. We have always had a homework policy in place. The homework is limited and scaled to each child's age and grade level. All homework assignments are reinforcement of class as-

signments and work to build skill fluency in your child. We will be utilizing the Seesaw platform for homework! No more forgetting homework in the locker or at home. Additionally, parents can have direct communication with their child's teacher in regards to homework assignments. If there is a question or concern, it is easily followed up on and explained in class the next day. If your child stays in our 3-5pm program, their homework will always be readily available to complete during this time.

Finally, we will also use the program to provide fun but optional enrichment activities for classrooms, Prek 4's and up.

Again, more details will be forthcoming as we draw closer to the new school year.

# Fall Availability

|                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Owls (infants 6weeks-18months)     | 1 M-F available, 1 T/TH available |
| Zebras (toddlers)                  | FULL                              |
| Bumble Bees (two year old's)       | 1 T/TH available      M/W/F FULL  |
| Monkeys (young three's)            | 3 M/W/F available      T/TH FULL  |
| Giraffes (three year old's)        | 2 M/W/F available      T/TH FULL  |
| Pandas (young four's)              | 2 M/W/F available      T/TH FULL  |
| Panthers (four year old's, prek)   | 3 T/TH, 1 M/W/F, 2 M-F available  |
| Tigers (transitional kindergarten) | 2 M-F available                   |

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Wolf Pups (kindergarten)     | 2 available |
| Gray Wolves (first grade)    | 4 available |
| White Wolves (second grade)  | 2 available |
| White Wolves (third grade)   | 2 available |
| Red Wolves (fourth grade)    | FULL        |
| Red Wolves (fifth grade)     | 2 available |
| Black Wolves (sixth grade)   | 2 available |
| Black Wolves (seventh grade) | 1 available |

*Enrollment is on a first come, first serve basis. Please visit our website at [www.thesherwoodacademy.com](http://www.thesherwoodacademy.com) for enrollment information.*

