



June 2, 2021

Dear Shelton Parents,

We hope that you are enjoying the first days of summer. We were so grateful to celebrate 2020-2021 with graduation and other festive year-end events at our new campus. We still pinch ourselves to see that so many dreams have come true in this space.

This morning, we have summer sports camps taking place both outdoors on our new fields and indoors in our new gym and training room. It was nice to drive up to the campus and see student athletes. We have *Summer, the Shelton Way* gearing up, with even a waiting list for certain classes. All of this brings some big smiles to our faces.

SUMMER

We want to update you with our plans concerning COVID mitigation. As has been the case since the outbreak of COVID-19, we continue to consult with medical experts, the Dallas County Department of Health and Human Services (DCHHS), other ISAS schools, and our own taskforce that includes physicians and other professionals. We continue to study recent data and to re-evaluate our policies and strategies to place the safety of students, faculty and staff at the forefront.

Starting today through June 13th, masks will be *optional* for everyone in the school building.

During this time period, students ages 12 and older may continue to receive COVID vaccinations if desired.

Starting June 14th, when summer school begins, masks will be *required* for everyone entering the building (students, faculty, staff). Students in academic classrooms will remain masked. Those students attending sports camps must wear a mask entering and exiting the building, but masks are optional while participating in

the camps. Masks are not required while outside. We are aware of Governor Abbott's Executive Order for public schools concerning no mandated masks after June 4th. As a private school that enjoys more latitude, we have elected to follow the DCHHS's recommendation that schools continue with masks throughout the summer.

FALL 2021

We are encouraged by many positive trends that promise more normalcy for the return to school. Our decision concerning the wearing of masks will be shaped by such factors as the number of positive cases, emergence of any contagious COVID variants, and vaccination rates.

At this time (but subject to change), and based on the results of year-end parental surveys that showed little interest, virtual learning appears unwarranted for the fall. That said, our goal is to record classroom instruction for students in Grades 5 – 12, so that lessons can be viewed at home at a later time. We are fortunate to offer the positive aspects of educational technology as we move forward.

Should quarantine become necessary at any point, we will adjust our model accordingly, just as we did in March 2020. We reaped valuable experience as we learned previously how to pivot.

We will continue to communicate with you through the summer as plans evolve, and we will continue to post information on our website concerning COVID updates.

If you have questions about curriculum-related matters, we can help. Please contact your division head:

Christine Davis, Lower School Grades EC – 2, cdavis@shelton.org

Amy Cushner, Upper Elementary Grades 3 – 5, acushner@shelton.org

Lisa Tyler, Middle School Grades 6 – 8, lt Tyler@shelton.org

Jenny Cheatham, Upper School Grades 9 – 12, jcheatham@shelton.org

If you have questions about health-related safety protocols, please contact

Eve Herman, MN, RN, eherman@shelton.org

In the meantime, please create some special times for you and yours this summer.

Gratefully,

Suzanne Stell
Executive Director / Head of School

Eve Herman, MN, RN
Coordinator of Health Services