

# Dear Imani Family,

Welcome to the 2020-21 school year! "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. -Philippians 4:6"

Yes, we are in the middle of unpredictable, unprecedented times, but we are going to praise God in the midst of the storm! We are going to thank Him that He has brought us safe thus far. We are going to thank Him in advance for His protection and for His favor. We are just going to praise the Lord!

County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Harris County Public Health issued a letter last week that reads in part... "Harris County's COVID-19 Threat Level is currently at "Red Level 1: Stay Home", which means there is severe and uncontrolled disease transmission in our community. We recognize that in-person instruction is vital for the educational development and social well-being of children and young adults, and...in-person instruction of children is crucial for many parents to carry out their activities...However, the prevalence of the virus in our community means that it would be unsafe for schools to return in-person at this time or in the near future."

"Taking everything into consideration...we currently recommend the following:

• In-person, face to face instruction should not be made available for any grades from prekindergarten through grade 12 until October 2020."

Our Board of Trustees concurs with these recommendations and has made the decision to begin school remotely. Given this, there is no need to delay the beginning of remote classes until August 31st. All grades, Kindergarten through eighth grade, will start online only on August 24, and will be extended one week in June. We are hopeful that we will be able to resume in-person classes as an option by October 1. Should it

become necessary to extend this time, our teachers have demonstrated the ability to deliver the high quality, rigorous educational program that you have come to expect from The Imani School remotely.

- Kindergarten- 5th grade classes will begin at 9:00 a.m. each morning and will continue until about 2:00 p.m.
- Middle school classes will begin at 8:00 a.m. and continue until approximately 2:00 p.m. "Help" classes will be available at 2:00 p.m. to offer additional support.
- Now is a good time to start establishing regular bedtimes, waking them earlier, and easing into a "school mindset."
- School supply lists will be posted on the website.

**Uniforms and masks** will be required for those students choosing to return to campus when it reopens. Letting your child choose a mask s/he likes, having him/her wear it frequently, and seeing you wear one will be helpful when he returns to school.

#### **NEW PARENTS' RECEPTION:**

If you are new to the Imani family, we want to welcome you. **Join us on Tuesday,** August 11 from 5:00-6:00 p.m., for our first ever Virtual New Parents' Reception. This is an evening planned just for you. You will have an opportunity to meet the teachers, ask questions, and generally get to know more about your new community.

A link will be sent the day before each virtual meeting.\*

# VIRTUAL BACK TO SCHOOL CLASS MEETINGS Wednesday, August 19

Sixth - Eighth Grade parents will meet with teachers at 12:00 p.m. Fifth Grade parents will meet with teachers at 2:00 p.m.

# **Thursday, August 20**

Second Grade parents will meet with teachers at 12:00 p.m. Third Grade parents will meet with teachers at 1:30 p.m. Fourth Grade parents will meet with teachers at 3:00 p.m.

### Friday, August 21

Kindergarten parents will meet with teachers at 12:00 p.m. First Grade parents will meet with teachers at 1:30 p.m.

### Monday, August 24

First Day of School. All School Invocation at 9:00 a.m.

The Family Guide to Virtual School is available on the website. This may answer many of the questions regarding Imani's approach to online learning. Please feel free to email us if you have additional questions or concerns at <a href="mailto:tgray@imanischool.org">tgray@imanischool.org</a> and we will get back with you. You may also call us at 713-723-0616.

Our plans, as are the plans of most schools, colleges and even businesses, are continuously evolving. We will keep you updated as we get additional information that may impact our school. No, we don't know what tomorrow may bring, but we never have!

We are all anxiously looking forward to seeing you and our children even if it is virtually. This will undoubtedly be an unforgettable year. Let's work together and make it a great one!

Faithfully,

Patricia Hogan Williams