CTL Summer Bulletin

August 1, 2020



















Move-In Ready!

With the exception of a few installations such as stalls in the restrooms and barn lights in the foyer, we are excited that we will begin moving into classrooms on Monday. We are still awaiting the final fire code and fire equipment permits and the final Fire Marshall inspection which we expect to fall into place during the next three weeks.

The CTL team of teachers will be busy moving into classrooms during the next two weeks, will be ready to begin professional development the week of August 17 and will be excited to greet your children on August 25.

We are thankful for our new home, and for all who made this journey possible. Thank you Jim and Ali Spurlin for inviting us to this beautiful oasis!

CTL Continues Plans for Face-to-Face Opening on August 25

CTL continues to work toward meeting our school start date of August 25 with face-to-face instruction as planned.

On Tuesday, Attorney General Ken Paxton released a <u>letter of guidance</u> stating that local health authorities may **not** preemptively close any private school (religious or non-religious) due to threat of virus spread. He stated, "**The decision to open and close is up to local private school leaders**." The same day, Governor Greg Abbott stated that local governments **do not have the power to force schools to delay in-person classes**.

Governor Abbott stated, "The authority to decide how schools will safely open this year, again, lies with local school boards . . . In making that decision, school boards have the ability to base their decisions on advice and recommendations by local public health authorities but are not bound by those recommendations. Local authorities do have the right to close a school if there's an outbreak on campus. But local health authorities do not have the power to issue preemptive, blanket closures of schools weeks or months in advance of when a school may open its doors to students."

We thank Governor Abbott and Attorney General Paxton for their support of local control of schools. CTL will continue to follow the Governor's Executive Orders as well as Guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and will adhere to our CTL COVID Guidelines posted in the last two Summer Bulletins so that all CTL students remain safe and well. Through in-school instruction, CTL will provide quality academic support along with the social and emotional support that students need to thrive.

AAP and CDC Continue to Advocate for Opening Schools

Both the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) strongly advocate for having students physically present in school in the fall. The guidance is based on what pediatricians and infectious disease specialists know to date about COVID-19 and how it affects children. Evidence so far suggests that children and adolescents are less likely to become infected by the virus and if they do are either asymptomatic or have less severe symptoms and suggests they are less likely to spread the virus to adults. On the other hand, AAP and CDC both emphasize that the harm caused by closing schools is significant to the social, emotional, and behavioral health; economic well-being, and academic achievement of children in both the short- and long-term. Schools play a critical role in supporting the whole child--academic achievement; language, communication, social and interpersonal skills; and emotional and psychological support from friends, teachers, and staff members.

Look for Enrollment Packets and School Supply Lists Next Week

You will be receiving Enrollment Packets by email next week. Ms. Maia has been working hard to consolidate the school supply lists submitted by teachers. Have fun shopping with your children!

Exciting times are ahead with more announcements next week!

CTL Vision and Mission

CTL Vision

We are dedicated to igniting and growing a LOVE of learning in every child.

CTL Mission

CTL's primary mission is to foster a love of learning by teaching students to follow their curiosity, to think creatively, and to work both independently and collaboratively. We celebrate diversity and instill integrity, compassion, and confidence in each student. We work in tandem with parents, families, and community members to ensure that each child receives the tools and nurturing needed to become his or her own unique self. CTL provides an intimate, personalized environment tailored to each student's needs.



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