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Satori School Update ~ July 12, 2020

Dear Satori Students and Families,

I apologize for my delay in getting this letter out to you. In all honesty, I have been waiting, learning, struggling, and trying to figure out how to do my best to keep my staff and our students and families safe when returning to school. With Governor Doug Ducey's Executive Order to start 'in school' learning August 17th, my first thought was to wait to start school until the 17th because I feel that having students with their teachers and friends is so important for their wellbeing and the community of the classroom. Watching the number of cases going up in Arizona and listening to my teaching staff and many others, my admin team and I sat down and came up with a plan that fits where we are today. With understanding that this year will need to be forever fluid and moving, I may very likely send out another plan as I hear from our state. While reading this email keep in mind that there is a difference with school closure and building closure. Virtual learning = building closure. School and learning will continue wherever we are.

The opening plan as of July 12, 2020:

- Satori School will begin virtual learning August 6, 2020 with a hopeful in class option starting September 8, 2020. If other schools decide to open on August 17th, it gives us time to watch and learn. There is a petition with several superintendents in the State of Arizona that are asking Governor Doug Ducey to keep schools with virtual learning until the end of the 1st quarter. My hope is that things will calm down and people will feel safe coming back to school on September 8th, but I did want to let you know what is out there.
- Virtual learning will look different than it did at the end of last year. Details and agreements will be sent out when finalized.
- We are looking at a different plan for our preschool so please look out for a phone call from me sometime this coming week. I will also be calling Kindergarten and 1st grade families to talk about a plan.
- There are two options if school buildings are allowed to physically open:
 - 5 day a week in class learning
 - 5 day a week virtual learning
 - hybrid option (with permission)

There will be more information coming out as we get closer to opening. We will continue to come up with ways to keep students and staff safe as possible so when we return, everything will be in place. We are still working on a COVID-19 handbook to attach to our regular handbook but with only 3 of us, it is taking a bit longer.

Thank you for your kind words and understanding during this most difficult time. Please feel free to reach out. I miss everyone terribly and will continue to hope I get to see a bunch of smiling faces sooner than later.

Much love,
Jo