

Dear U Prep Families -

I hope this message finds you and your family well.

As you know, U Prep began this school year with remote education to ensure the safety of our Scholars, Families, and our Crew. Earlier in the year, we surveyed our Families and Crew to assess the readiness of their return to the classroom. Survey results revealed that many participants from both groups were not yet ready to return to in-person instruction. As such, we made a decision to remain in virtual learning and embark upon creating a three-phased plan to provide safe, supportive learning environments for return to in-person learning options.

The U Prep Crew is ready to welcome Scholars back to the classroom. We are excited to announce that U Prep will reopen schools and provide in-person learning options for Scholars **beginning 4th Quarter, April 16, 2021! Your scholars' first day of in-person learning will be April 19, 2021.** Concurrently, we will continue with remote learning for Scholars whose families desire for them to remain learning remotely through the end of the school year. The decision to offer both options was crafted in light of Family and Crew feedback.

Last week, you received a letter from our CEO, Danielle Jackson, sharing broad information around the various learning options being offered that families may choose from to engage and support your Scholars. Accordingly, your School leadership team has prepared reopening plans specific to our school based on Scholar and Family needs while maintaining our commitment to safety and providing a culturally responsive educational experience for our Scholars.

The in-person learning option will adhere to all the health and safety guidelines outlined in our *COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan* which was developed based on CDC, state, and local health department guidelines, and the input of school administration, teachers, staff, community partners, and approved by our Board. We review and update it as guidelines continue to evolve.

It is our belief that the reopening plan we have outlined here will guide the continued academic, social and emotional growth of our scholars and ensure that transition back into the classroom is a comfortable and positive experience.

Below is an overview of **UPA Middle School's Reopening Plan** and what you can expect over the next few weeks as we eagerly prepare for your Scholars' return. You are receiving a detailed plan in addition to this letter.

Updated cleaning schedule	3 classrooms used on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd floors	Designated stairwell use
10:1 teacher/student ratio	Scholars will be grouped by grade as much as possible	Scholars in-person will stay with Crews for morning meeting and Learning Lab

BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

DETROIT 90/90

Vincent DeAngelis  
Francis Resendes  
Marcus Ways

PUBLIC SCHOOL ACADEMIES OF DETROIT (PSAD)

Joseph Aristeo      John Cleary      Kyle Chandler      Keith W. Cooley      Marvin Franklin  
Denise J. Lewis      Karen Obsniuk, PH.D      Edward Parks      Don Tuski, PH.D      Roger Williams

Scholars will log into their classes via laptops and headphones	Teachers will teach classes virtually while monitoring scholars in-person	Fridays scholars complete duties at home
Two large areas utilized for social distancing large group times	Scheduled bathroom breaks	Rooms designated for quarantine if a scholar becomes ill in school

Now that we have completed our return to on campus plans and shared more detailed information on what learning will look like in Fourth Quarter, we want to give families a final opportunity to decide whether or not they intend to have their Scholars return to campus for Fourth Quarter.

**To that end, here is a link to a survey which you can complete to confirm your intentions:**  
[UPA MS Family Commitment Survey](#)

Please help us by starting the conversation now about safety precautions in the school building with your Scholar(s) who will be returning to campus. This includes maintaining six feet of distance, wearing a mask properly, practicing frequent hand washing, hand sanitizing, and avoiding embracing friends or Crew members (although "air hugs, air high fives, and air fist bumps" are welcome).

If you have questions about this plan, please contact School Director Melissa Lloyd at [melissa.lloyd@uprepschools.com](mailto:melissa.lloyd@uprepschools.com)

Thank you for allowing us to serve your Scholars and Family and for your commitment to U Prep Schools. Let's finish the year strong!

Sincerely,

**Melissa Lloyd**

Melissa Lloyd  
School Director  
UPA Middle School