



UPAD: Middle School Q4 Reopening Updates 3.15.2021

Good afternoon UPAD Middle School families,

I hope this message finds you and your family well. Today, I write a longer-than-usual Family Update, to share our Quarter 4 Reopening Plan. Please take the time to read through our plan and join us at **CommUnity Crew this Wednesday March 17th, 5:30 pm**, to hear our In-Person Plan specifics and to make your Quarter 4 Return to Learn Commitments.

We started this school year 100% virtual to ensure the safety of our scholars, families, and staff. We surveyed our families and staff to assess the readiness of their return to the classroom and results revealed that many members of both groups were not yet ready to return to in-person instruction. We made the decision to remain virtual, while working to create a three-phased plan that provided safe, supportive learning environments for our eventual return to in-person learning options.

I am thrilled to share that UPAD Middle is ready to welcome scholars back to our school! As a network, all U Prep schools will reopen and provide in-person learning options for Scholars beginning with the start of the 4th Quarter, April 16, 2021!

At UPAD Middle our first week back with in-person options begins Monday April 19, 2021.

We have a limited number of in-person student seats, due to staff capacity, and will therefore place students in an **A Group** (in-person on Mon & Tues) and **B Group** (in-person on Wed & Thurs). After Quarter 4 Return to Learn Commitments are signed, and students are selected for the limited seats, families will receive their specific return dates.

Our school's leadership team worked to create a reopening plan based on our student and family needs while maintaining our commitment to safety and providing a culturally responsive educational experience. We know that many families want their students to remain learning virtually through the end of this year. Our reopening plan was created so that our virtual learning schedule and experience has minimal, if any changes, and our in-person options, though limited, do the same.

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 will review and update it as guidelines continue to evolve.

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

Below is an overview of **UPAD Middle School's Reopening Plan** and what you can expect if selected for in-person learning.

UPAD Middle Quarter 4 Reopening Plan

April 19th - June 18th

Due to staff capacity and social distancing, we have limited in-person spots designated for each grade level. This unfortunately means that we will **not be able to accommodate every family who wishes to return for Q4**

In Person Students

In person students will be divided into an A group and a B group. Students will attend in person **2 days per week**. Students will have their temp taken every morning and will wear a mask at all times.

In-person students will need to bring their chromebook everyday, as they will attend their synchronous classes on Zoom while at school, so that our staff can continue to teach both our virtual and our in-person students.

Virtual Students

The virtual schedule of classes will remain exactly the same for students. We aimed to change as little as possible.

School Schedule: 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Doors Open: 8:30 am

Dismissal Ends: 4:00 pm

Arrival and dismissal times will be strict due to safety and social distancing. Families who cannot consistently make the windows may need to return to virtual learning

Group A:

In Person Mon & Tues

Virtual Wed & Thurs

Group B:

Virtual Mon & Tues

In Person Wed & Thurs

*Students will not be able to switch between Group A and Group B for contact tracing purposes

Friday: Virtual for ALL students

Mon - Thurs: 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Friday: Virtual Crew Conferences & Academic Conferences

Family Next Steps

- 1) If interested in our in-person option, attend **Community Crew: Reopening, Wed March 17th, 5:30 pm** to hear the specifics of our plan
- 2) Make your final decision for Q4 by Friday March 19th at 11:59 pm by signing our [Q4 In Person Commitment](#) (to be shared at meeting)



UPAD: Middle School Q4 Reopening Updates 3.15.2021

A full description of the logistics for our reopening plan, can be found here: [UPAD Middle School Quarter 4 Reopening Plan](#).

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 staff members (although air hugs, air high fives, and air fist bumps are definitely welcome).

If you have questions about this plan, please join us at **CommUnity Crew: Reopening Edition on Wednesday March 17th at 5:30 pm**. After the meeting, we will share our Q4 In Person Commitments for you to confirm your in-person decision. Families will then be notified of in-person seat selection via email the following week.

You can also contact us at upadms@uprepschools.com with any questions as well.

We thank you for your continued support and commitment to our UPAD Middle School community. Here's to ending the year stronger than ever!

Best,

Clare McKenna
School Director
clare.mckenna@uprepschools.com