To the Moses Brown Community,

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge our country and the world, the issue of education has taken on unprecedented significance. Reopening schools is an important step on the road to recovery, and many people are eager for schools to reopen this fall. Others are understandably anxious as well.

Recognizing the complexity of these forces and emotions, for the past several months Moses Brown has been working on a plan for reopening its campus, and we are excited and optimistic about sharing it with you. In actuality, we have already opened, as many children have returned to campus in recent weeks. Through our camp program as well as the Cozy Corner pre-school in our Lower School, we have hosted more than 500 children on campus. We’ve learned a lot about operating in these unprecedented circumstances and, thanks to careful planning, communication, and collaboration, we have experienced no cases of COVID-19.

This reference manual reflects the state of our planning as it exists on July 31, more than a month from the opening of school on September 2. It reflects a lot of learning from internal teams, outside experts, state officials, courses, webinars, and other schools. We are publishing this plan now in order to give the MB community time to understand its various components.

Here are some highlights of what we hope and anticipate for the fall:

• Lower School students will return to five-day on-campus learning, including the availability of our Extended Day program. Find more details on the Lower School plan here.

• Middle School students will also return to five-day on-campus learning, including after school activities like athletics and drama; MS teams will be arranged by grade, by floor. Find more details on the Middle School plan here.

• Upper School: While we aspire to a full in-person opening, the size of the student body and configuration of our classrooms present unique challenges. We will de-densify the division in significant ways and offer after school programs such as athletics and drama. We are considering whether an alternating schedule (half of students on campus at a time) will also be necessary and are awaiting further guidance from the state before making a final decision. Find more details on the Upper School plan here.

• A new five-day schedule in all divisions. Students can expect a consistency of routine, no matter what conditions come our way this year.

• Major technology upgrades, including voice-activated video cameras in every classroom that provide live streaming and interaction for students who may need to learn from home.

Given the ongoing state of the pandemic, we feel that these measures are appropriate, and position the school to be able to shift in different directions—toward more normal operations, or to full distance learning—quickly, simply, and seamlessly as public health conditions dictate.
As you would expect, we have put many safety measures in place to support reopening and mitigate risk from the virus. Highlights include:

- Strict mask wearing and physical distancing protocols;
- Enhanced hygiene and cleaning practices;
- Daily health screening and temperature checking, and a strict illness/attendance policy;
- Upgraded air filtering and UV sterilization in ductwork;
- Maximal use of outdoor spaces, including tents for flexible-use gatherings;
- Visitors to campus strictly limited.

These and other safety protocols will help protect the health and well-being of the MB community. Understandably, we are all tired of living with restrictions imposed by the pandemic and we appreciate the community’s support in helping us reopen Moses Brown in a way that is responsible and safe.

It’s important to acknowledge that the pandemic continues to evolve. If conditions change appreciably in August, we will change our plans accordingly. If rates of infection and hospitalization decline in the first month of the school year, for example, we will reassess our plans and consider moving to more normal operations. Conversely, if illness increases, we may need to keep safety measures in place for a longer period or shift to distance learning again. Whatever happens, MB is committed to operating by the core principles outlined in this document, and to keeping the community well informed.

As we’ve stated throughout our planning, we believe strongly that returning to school is in the best interest of children. While this issue has become increasingly politicized, we have tried to stay focused on creating a plan that draws on the best information that science, research, and medical experts can offer. We are confident we have developed a comprehensive approach that delivers on our 237-year tradition of providing an outstanding academic program, protecting the physical, social, and emotional well-being of our community, and nurturing the Inner Light of every child in our care.

More information about practices and policies in each division will be coming in August from division heads and we will be scheduling a series of open Zoom sessions for parents as we get closer to the start of the school year. In the meantime, please reach out to any of us if you have questions or concerns about the current state of our plans.

In friendship,

Matt Glendinning, Head of School
Debbie Phipps, Assistant Head of School for Academic Affairs
Vickie Monta, Chief Financial Officer
On-Campus Learning

• The anticipated Moses Brown re-opening plan returns all students in all divisions to a robust level of on-campus learning. We believe that students’ academic, social, emotional, and physical well-being is best served by being back in school.

• The baseline class structures, schedules, and safety features described here will allow us to shift quickly between in-person, hybrid, or distance learning in response to the evolving pandemic. We can deliver an excellent educational program in any model required by the state.

• Like all schools in Rhode Island, MB is awaiting final recommendations on school re-opening from the Governor’s Task Force, expected by mid-August.

The Student Experience: Divisional Plans, Schedules, and Co-Curriculars

• New Five-Day Schedules: To ensure students experience consistent routines and expectations this year, we have developed a new five-day schedule for each division that can be used in any mode of learning (fully in-person, hybrid, or fully remote).

• Lower School students will return to five-day on-campus learning. Every student will be supplied with a computer (iPad or Chromebook) to ensure consistent access and eliminate sharing. To de-densify the Lower School and ensure small, stable pods, some classes will be re-located on campus. Each pod will use a single building entry/exit and bathroom. Extended Day will be available (but fluctuating, day-to-day enrollment is no longer permissible). Standard safety features will include assigned seats, masks, physical distancing, desk washing, and careful hygiene. Parent visitors will not be allowed in the Lower School building unless necessary and a new drop-off/pick-up protocol will be adopted. Find more details on the Lower School plan here.

• Middle School students also will return to five-day on-campus learning. Middle School Teams will be organized by grade and (with the exception of some music classes) students will stay in small stable pods on the same floor, using consistent entrances and bathrooms. Most teachers will travel between pods to teach; some special subjects may involve teachers “Zooming” into a pod, with another teacher present for supervision and assistance. Standard safety features will include assigned seats, masks, physical distancing, 6-9’ teacher zone, and desk washing. Find more details on the Middle School plan here.

• While we aspire to a full in-person opening in the Upper School, the size of the student body and configuration of our classrooms present unique challenges. As stable pods will not be possible, we will de-densify the division in significant ways, including use of non-teaching and outdoor spaces and carefully controlling the logistics of lunch and free periods. We are considering whether an alternating schedule (half of students on campus at a time) will also be necessary and are awaiting further guidance from the state before making a final decision. Standard safety features will include assigned seats, masks, physical distancing, 6-9’ teacher zone, and desk washing. Find more details on the Upper School plan here.
Learning from home: A key aspect of our plan is the capacity for concurrent teaching—offering live, synchronous, and simultaneous instruction to students both in class and at home. This could become necessary if students are absent due to quarantine, or if the Upper School adopts an alternating schedule. Significant technology upgrades and faculty training this summer have enhanced MB’s ability to support students remotely.

Athletics, Performing Arts, and Other Co-Curriculars: While we await state guidance on whether interscholastic competition will be allowed, we will offer in-person, team-based athletic programs for Middle School and Upper School students this fall. Theater and Music faculty are intending to offer in-person programming, as we continue to work to address the challenges involved with choral and wind ensembles. We plan to maximize other co-curricular opportunities (e.g., Robotics, Mock Trial) as permitted by state guidelines.

Technology: Digital Tools to Enhance Learning

MB is making major investments in network infrastructure, hardware, and software to ensure teachers can provide an outstanding educational experience for students regardless of delivery model. Highlights include:

- A full replacement of MB’s fiber optic network, increasing capacity from 1Gb to 10Gb in most areas.
- Installation of pivoting, voice-activated Owl Pro cameras in every classroom. By showing who is speaking, the video allows students at home to connect and engage authentically with classroom activity and discussion.
- Lower School students will be equipped with personal computers (iPads for N-1 and Chromebooks for 2-5). Eliminates sharing and ensures a standard experience and consistent access for all students.
- Cleartouch interactive panels will be installed in Middle School classrooms, ensuring a consistent and state-of-the-art array as teachers move from one classroom to another.
- New software programs and platforms adaptable to in-person and distance learning, including Edpuzzle, BrainPOP, Seesaw, FlipGrid, Loom, Newsela, and Soundtrap.
Health and Safety Protocols: Working Together to Minimize Risk

• Our responsibility for the health and safety of our community demands that we implement new safeguards to mitigate risk from the virus. We all need to come together in showing the diligence, care, commitment, patience, and resilience that will ensure we can open the school and keep it open. MB will strictly enforce adherence to all safety guidelines.

• Highlights of health and safety protocols include:

  a. Masks must be worn everywhere on campus except a) in Nursery, Pre-Primary, and Kindergarten if students are within stable groups; b) when doing so is prohibitive, e.g., eating lunch or playing sports; and c) when working alone in an office.

  b. Six feet of physical distancing is required everywhere on campus except where not feasible in classrooms. As recommended by the World Health Organization and the American Academy of Pediatrics, 3-foot distancing will be the minimal standard among students seated in classrooms. Adults should strive to maintain at least six feet of distance from others at all times.

  c. Anyone showing symptoms of COVID-19 must stay or return home immediately. Parents must arrange for a sick child to be picked up from school within one hour of notification. Return to school allowed only with a doctor’s note.

  d. Anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19, or who has had close contact with someone who has tested positive, must inform the school and follow instructions from RIDOH. Return to school will be allowed only after completing requirements as directed by RIDOH, including isolation or quarantine.

  e. All members of the MB community must perform a daily self-screen at home prior to coming to school and attest to being asymptomatic via a convenient app called SchoolPass.

  f. Additionally, the temperature of all students arriving on campus will be checked manually with no-touch thermometers before they enter any building.

  g. Visitors to campus will be limited, but those who do come must complete self-screening at check-in.

  h. Increased housekeeping staff and enhanced cleaning and hygiene practices are in place.

  i. Any member of the MB community who is personally at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should consult with their doctor as to the advisability of returning to school, and then speak with their supervisor, the Chief Financial Officer, or Head of School.

• By choosing to work or enroll at MB for the 2020-21 school year, all community members acknowledge and agree that: a) the school has taken reasonable steps to mitigate the risk of transmission; b) despite these steps, there is a risk that a community member could contract COVID-19; c) they knowingly and voluntarily assume that risk on their behalf (or their child’s); and d) they accept full responsibility for their own health and safety on campus and commit to following all guidelines and instructions issued by the school.
Last May, recognizing that students’ academic, social, emotional, and physical well-being is enhanced when they attend school in person, Moses Brown committed to doing everything possible to reopen its campus in the fall. Governor Raimondo and the R.I. Department of Education published guidelines for reopening schools on June 19, and we have been preparing for the return of students, faculty, and staff ever since.

As always, our goal is to provide a superlative educational and co-curricular program grounded in Quaker values, while also taking steps to mitigate risk and protect the health and well-being of our community.

This summer, Moses Brown convened several teams to study the guidelines and prepare for reopening. A group of 25 teachers met in divisional groups to consider the student experience, new daily schedules, and best practices in distance, hybrid, and concurrent teaching (offering in-person and distance learning simultaneously). Collectively, they invested more than 200 hours in courses offered by the Global Online Academy, One Schoolhouse, and Blackbaud, all national leaders in the field of education.

A separate group of 16-people made up MB’s Reopening Task Force, a group that met weekly to examine virtually every aspect of school operations, from screening and cleaning to classroom layout, dining, transportation and everything in between. The clerks of the task force, Head of School Matt Glendinning and Chief Financial Officer Vickie Monta, benefitted from a three-month course on school reopening offered by Independent School Management, which included weekly updates from a panel of leading physicians. Matt also consulted regularly with outside experts, including the school’s Consulting Physician Dr. Judith Shaw, pediatrician Dr. Cindy Klipfel, infectious disease specialist Dr. Maria Mileno, emergency medicine specialist Dr. Sam Goldman, and economics professor Dr. Emily Oster, one of the leaders of the reopening team at Brown University.

Throughout, planning for reopening has been shaped by a number of guiding principles, values, and commitments:
Having operated successfully in Phase III of its reopening since June 30, the state of Rhode Island seems to be on track for some form of in-person return to school in September. We are awaiting final guidance from the Governor, and all MB community members need to know that the plans detailed here are subject to change based both on her instructions and on the evolving state of the pandemic.

At MB, our goal is to open and stay open, which will require us to be exceedingly cautious about how we return to campus. Given the size and configuration of our school, we believe that in-person learning at MB will need to be modified and limited in significant ways for at least the first few months of the year in order to mitigate risks from the virus (see Class Sizes and Stable Groups; Instruction and Schedules).

We believe that the plans described here position the school to open on September 2 and remain open through the fall. These plans meet the guidelines set by state officials; they reflect lessons learned by other countries, states, districts, and schools; and they optimize our ability to deliver an MB education within established safety parameters.
De-densifying Campus: Class Size and Stable Groups

Guidelines from RIDE and RIDOH for in-person learning recommend that students in Lower and Middle School be organized into stable groups. Using such “pods”—groups of students who spend all or most of the day together—helps to mitigate the risk of spreading the virus, particularly if pods can maintain a distance of at least 14 feet from each other.

**Lower School**

This stipulation maps well onto the current configuration of MB’s N-5th grade Lower School, where students in each grade tend to spend the majority of the day together. For the coming year, as an additional precaution, we will take steps to make class sizes smaller than usual. Nursery will be relocated to the Goff Library, Fifth Grade will move to Ross House, and Music will take place in individual classrooms. The space freed up by these moves will allow Pre-Primary, Kindergarten, and First grades to occupy two classrooms each downstairs, with a similar arrangement for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grades upstairs, resulting in small, stable groups. Students will not be allowed to mix or cross groups during recess or lunch. Those students choosing to participate in after-school programming (Extended Day) will be organized in new stable groups drawn from two classes each (N + PP, K+1, 2+3, 4+5). Because of the need to maintain stable pods, parents will need to enroll their children in Extended Day for the full fall, winter, and/or spring seasons. We will not be able to accommodate fluctuating, day-to-day enrollment.

**Middle School**

Because the Middle School years constitute an important period of growth and transition between childhood and adolescence, MB’s 6th-8th grade Middle School incorporates structural and curricular elements typical of both elementary and high school. The result of this deliberate design is that creating 100% stable groupings is not feasible without compromising the quality of our Middle School program, but we can come very close. In order to maximize use of stable groups, we will adjust the usual MS team structure so that each grade constitutes a separate team, with students organized into small, grade-level sections for English, History, Math, Science, Art, World Languages, and Physical Education. Stable pods will not be possible in every music class, where grade-level mixing is typical, but there, a combination of mask wearing, distancing, and/or remote teaching will be used. Those students choosing to participate in after-school programming (e.g., Athletics) will be considered a separate stable group.

**Upper School**

For high schools, the R.I. guidelines encourage stable groups but acknowledge that this will not be feasible in most schools, where students gather in different configurations for different subjects. Since students and teachers will be blending into different groups during the school day, it’s essential that everyone follow safety guidelines carefully, especially wearing a mask and practicing physical distancing at all times. In order to “de-densify” the division, flexible spaces on campus that are not traditionally used for teaching, such as Upper and Lower Dwares, will be used for classrooms. We will also erect tents outside that will be suitable for classes, lunch, or free periods during good weather. If state officials and/or public health conditions dictate, we are prepared to further de-densify the campus by adopting an alternating A/B schedule, where half the students learn on campus and half learn from home.
Instruction and Schedules

Philosophy: Continuous Learning at Moses Brown

Because the course of the pandemic is unpredictable, schools need to plan for maximum flexibility for the 2020-21 school year. In our preparations at MB this summer, our overarching goal has been to take what we learned from distance learning last spring, what we know about what works at Moses Brown, and what we hope for our students moving forward, and develop a framework that offers the ability to transition seamlessly between different modes of teaching and learning.

Our current plan for opening anticipates bringing MB students back to campus, but with some significant changes and restrictions. First, the layout and spacing of classrooms have been carefully arranged to ensure physical distancing. Second, we’ve devised daily schedules for each division that are suitable for both in-person or distance learning. Lastly, we’ve created instructional plans that are flexible and adaptable to evolving conditions. Our goal is to position the school to be able to shift in either direction—toward more normal operations, or to full distance learning—quickly, simply, and seamlessly, always keeping the health of the community at the center of our thinking.

The summer has also allowed us time to reflect on various challenges for students: being ready to engage with school either in-person or remotely (or both), the potential for more frequent and longer absences if they are in quarantine situations, attention to learning differences, the importance of connections with adults as well as peers at school. While it is impossible to predict exactly how the fall will look, our plan allows us to approach the year with confidence, knowing that we can respond to changing circumstances.

All of our work has been guided by the Quaker value of simplicity. We learned last spring of the frustration that students (and families) felt navigating different modes of academic delivery and changing schedules. This fall, all three divisions will maintain a five-day, Monday through Friday schedule. In addition, each division will have a single platform for sharing academic content. The Lower and Middle schools will rely on Google, while the Upper School will use MyMB (a Blackbaud system). All assignments and information will be posted through these platforms, minimizing the friction students and teachers experienced last year trying to manage multiple communication channels. In addition, each teacher will use a common divisional template to share information about the week ahead so that students (and for our youngest learners, their families) can plan effectively and envision the work of the week.

We recognize that at various times and for varying reasons, some students will need to learn from home this year. Some students may be sick or have periods in which they are quarantining. And in the Upper School, we may need to adopt an alternating (A/B) schedule, with half the students participating remotely on any given day.

We have prepared carefully for these possibilities. With the guidance of our Technology Department, all students will have the opportunity to engage in concurrent learning, participating in live class from outside of the classroom. The technology that makes this possible relies on a pivoting, voice-activated video camera (installed in every classroom) and the Zoom meeting platform, which allow students outside of the classroom to see, hear, and engage with those in the class. (The set-up will also allow quarantining faculty to teach from home, with a second adult in the class serving as a facilitator.)

We will all need to learn to think of class differently: students will be “in class,” whether they are in a campus building or not. Just as we learned last spring to think of “learning work,” rather than separate “classwork” and “homework,” the boundaries of “class” will need to expand to include learners in various locations.
Teaching itself will change, too. In both Middle and Upper schools, students will be in assigned seats, in rows, mostly facing forward—a model that is not our usual one. Teachers will be in a separate “teacher zone,” always at a distance of at least six feet from students. While we will be eager to get back to our more usual method, with teachers moving around the room, we are thinking how to connect with and engage students in this new format. This summer, with financial support from the Russell Carpenter ’59 Endowed Fund for Teaching Excellence, over a third of all teachers enrolled in summer courses about various aspects of hybrid and distance teaching, some choosing multiple courses; and 25 volunteered to work on their divisional task force to share ideas about instruction in new formats and to help design new schedules. The level of engagement of faculty in planning for the fall reflects our commitment to ensuring that learning happens—and evolves—in the most effective and responsive way possible.

As a school, we recognize the educational value of both performing and visual arts by including these as graduation requirements and scheduling them during the school day; these are integral to our program and support the development of graduates who appreciate and engage in creative, empathy-building pursuits.

This year, art classes will look different. As you may have read, singing together—or playing wind instruments in ensemble—are activities that need to be carefully managed and monitored, and our performing arts teachers are working to adjust to the newest and emerging guidelines. In some visual arts classes, teachers may travel to classrooms to provide instruction. The consistent commitment, however, is that we will continue to offer arts classes as a vital component of our program.

We also know that time to be outside (weather permitting) and to move around are more important than ever. Physical Education classes in the Lower and Middle School will continue, occurring outside as much as possible. While we continue to await guidance about whether and how athletic teams may compete, our new Director of Athletics, AJ Kizekai, together with Associate Director Sarah McShane, is monitoring the situation closely.

In all divisions, parents’ connections with teachers and advisors are important, and while the informal conversations that happen naturally at drop-off or school events—as well as divisional coffees and parent gatherings—will not occur on campus, we want to partner closely with parents through phone calls or video conferencing. Advisors will remain the primary contact for parents, and we hope that parents will continue to be in touch to share questions, concerns, and joys. Each division will also share a plan for welcoming parents new to MB, whether that is through small-group playground dates in Lower School, limited size gatherings in Middle School, or a Zoom gathering for new Upper School parents to “meet” the people with whom their children will be learning.

And as always, your input and feedback—as well as that of students—will be important as we move forward. We are learning to adapt and evolve on an ongoing basis, with the consistent driver being care for students, teachers, families, and learning at the center.

**Divisional Plans**

Much of the detail for MB’s Reopening Plan is contained in the following divisional supplements. Please use the following links to access logistical details for the Lower, Middle, and Upper Schools.

- [Lower School](#)
- [Middle School](#)
- [Upper School](#)
Face Covering and Physical Distancing

Because coronavirus is transmitted primarily through respiratory droplets by persons in close proximity, wearing a cloth mask that covers the nose and mouth and maintaining physical distancing are two of the most effective strategies for combatting the spread of the virus.

With just a few exceptions (below), all employees, students, and visitors are required to wear a mask at all times on the MB campus. Moses Brown will provide a cloth mask to every student and employee at the start of school and will have an ample supply of disposable masks if needed. Cloth masks should be cleaned between uses, and all masks worn on the MB campus must be compliant with the dress code. Please refer to the CDC’s instructions on proper wearing of masks, linked here. Teachers will provide students with mask breaks (outdoors, with 6’ distancing) as often as possible, especially as our school community is developing its comfort and tolerance for mask wearing.

There are three limited exceptions to the mask policy:

1. Lower School students in Nursery, Pre-Primary, and Kindergarten will not be required to wear masks if they are within stable groups;
2. Masks will not need to be worn when doing so is prohibitive, e.g., eating or playing sports; and
3. Those working alone in an office will not need to wear a mask.

All MB employees will also be provided a clear plastic face shield. Wearing a face shield is not required but is a good option for those who want additional protection from airborne particles, especially for the eyes. Wearing both a mask and a shield is recommended if close contact with someone outside a stable pod is absolutely necessary. Wearing a plastic shield cannot safely take the place of wearing a cloth mask.

Consistent with state guidelines, maintaining six feet of physical distancing is required in all public spaces on the MB campus, where there could be close contact between people whose symptom status may be hard to monitor. Public spaces at MB include entrances, conference rooms, Woodman café, at drop-off and pick-up, on the sidelines of an athletic competition etc. Briefly passing within six feet of someone in a hallway or stairwell will not constitute a violation of this policy.

In classrooms, we will arrange seats to be six feet apart where possible, but this is not going to be feasible in many instances. Fortunately, in a small school community such as Moses Brown, the classroom environment can be closely controlled in additional ways, including daily screening, mask wearing, seating arrangements, and frequent cleaning of desks and other materials. When a combination of such preventive measures are in place, three-foot distancing between students is a reasonable standard according to the World Health Organization and the American Academy of Pediatrics. This will be the minimal standard for physical distancing in MB classrooms.

There are two limited exceptions to this classroom physical distancing policy:

1. Lower School students and teachers who are in a stable pod should strive, but are not required, to maintain physical distancing; and
2. All other adults must maintain a distance of six feet from students and adults at all times.
Attendance and Illness

All members of the MB community are required to complete a screening for symptoms every day prior to coming to Moses Brown's campus (see Screening and Self-Attestation). The temperature of every student will also be checked on arrival in the morning.

Anyone—students, parents, faculty, or staff—who has a fever of 100 or above or other symptoms associated with COVID-19 (cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle or body aches, sore throat, headache, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, runny or stuffy nose, fatigue, or recent loss of taste or smell) must stay home. Isolation—separating those who are sick from those who are not—is one of the most effective ways to combat infectious disease. Those who develop symptoms at school should report to the nurse and then go home immediately. Symptomatic students must remain in isolation at the nurse’s office, and parents must pick them up within one hour of notification by the school. Anyone with symptoms should seek medical advice within 48 hours and schedule a COVID-19 test as needed. Per state guidelines, a return to school will not be permitted until documentation from a medical provider indicates testing was negative and there are no other restrictions, there is no evidence of illness restricting attendance, or it is documented that the individual is no longer contagious.

Anyone—students, parents, faculty, or staff—who tests positive for COVID-19, or who has had close contact with a COVID-19 patient, must inform the school nurse and RIDOH and then follow the instructions of RIDOH, including isolation or quarantining. Quarantining involves separating and restricting the movements of those exposed to a contagious disease, who may not be symptomatic, to see if they become sick. A return to school will be allowed after completing isolation or quarantine, receiving a negative test result, or other requirements as directed by RIDOH. A second-degree contact—the contact of a contact, twice removed from the person who is ill—may continue to come to campus without restriction.

The recommended duration of isolation and quarantining is evolving in response to growing data and evidence. As of July 22, 2020, the CDC recommends the following:

- For those who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19, quarantine at home for 14 days since the last contact;
- For those who have COVID-19, isolation can be discontinued 10 days after symptom onset and resolution of fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications. For those with severe illness, isolation may need to extend for up to 20 days;
- For persons who never develop symptoms, isolation can be discontinued 10 days after the date of a positive test.

Consistent with current state guidelines, anyone coming to Rhode Island from any state with 5% or greater positivity rate must quarantine for 14 days or show proof of a negative test within the past 72 hours. A list of states that fall into that category, updated weekly, can be found here. Similarly, consistent with current presidential proclamation, any US citizen or permanent resident who has traveled to one of the following countries should quarantine for 14 days: China, Iran, Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Monaco, San Marino, Vatican City, England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, and Brazil.

If a member of the MB community—student, parent, faculty, or staff—tests positive for COVID-19, the school will share that information with RIDOH immediately as requested by state officials. As soon as possible thereafter, an email message will be sent to the school community, attesting to the positive case but excluding the individual’s identity, and explaining steps the school is taking to mitigate the risk of further spread (e.g., deep cleaning, isolation and/or quarantine, temporary closure of portions of the campus etc.).
Screening and Self-Attestation

Vigilant daily screening for the symptoms of COVID-19 is one of the most effective ways to reduce transmission of the virus. All members of the MB community—faculty, staff, students, and parents—must perform a self-screen at home prior to coming to school each morning. This process, which will be accomplished by means of an app called SchoolPass, asks respondents five questions:

1. Do you have any symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever above 100, chills, muscle or body aches, sore throat, headache, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, runny or stuffy nose, fatigue, or recent loss of taste or smell)?

2. Have you been in close contact with anyone with COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

3. Have you traveled outside the 50 United States, or to a state with a positivity rate of 5% or greater, in the past 14 days?

4. Have you traveled to Rhode Island for a non-work-related purpose from another city, town, county, or state that currently has a stay-at-home restriction, a shelter-in-place restriction, or a similar restriction, declaration, or announcement due to a COVID-19 outbreak?

5. Have you been directed to quarantine or isolate by the Rhode Island Department of Health or a healthcare provider in the past 14 days? If so, when does/did your quarantine or isolation period end?

If a community member answers “yes” to any of these questions, and the symptoms cannot be explained by known allergies or non-infectious illness, access to the MB campus will not be allowed. Parents should immediately inform their child’s division head, employees should inform their supervisor, and all should seek medical advice.

Community members who can answer “no” to all these questions are able to access the campus.

For the safety of all, non-essential visits to the MB campus will be significantly restricted until further notice. Parents, unfortunately, this means that we will need you to avoid coming into campus buildings unless absolutely necessary; this includes a temporary suspension of our custom of welcoming parents into our Lower School each morning. Those from outside the MB community who need to visit the school during the day must undergo on-site screening and check-in at the reception desk in Middle House, the divisional office in the Lower School, or the Operations Building. MB is required to keep a 30-day log of all visitors (including name, date, phone, and arrival/departure time). MB will not be hosting any admissions candidates in school buildings for at least the first month of the school year.

As an additional precaution, the temperature of all students will be checked during morning drop-off and arrival by staff stationed at all major entrances. Those with a temperature above 100 will be asked to report to the Nurse and to follow the guidelines listed here (See Attendance and Illness).

A note about COVID-19 testing: As per guidance from RIDOH, Moses Brown cannot require members of its community to be tested for COVID-19 prophylactically prior to returning to school, but MB does encourage it. Anyone in RI (symptomatic or asymptomatic) can be tested free of charge. Asymptomatic testing can be scheduled at portal.ri.gov, and the results take about a week. Those with symptoms should consult with their healthcare provider in order to arrange testing.
Classroom Layout and Other Space Considerations

Stable groups in Lower and Middle School will occupy consistent space as much as possible. Each stable group will use the same entrance, classroom, hallways, and bathrooms every day. In Lower School, students downstairs will arrive and depart directly through the classroom door leading outside; for grades 2, 3, and 4 upstairs, students will use the separate entrances located nearest their classroom. Nursery students will enter the Library from its north end (using the green doors facing the Back Circle), and 5th grade will enter Ross House from the Hope Street parking lot. In Middle School, 6th grade will enter the building through the recess room door, which opens to the parking lot near the baseball field; 7th grade through the front of Middle House; and 8th grade through the back of Middle House. Upper School students will the entrance that is closest to their first period class.

All spaces that are shared by stable groups, or used by Upper School students who are not in stable groups, will be cleaned frequently and in between uses by different groups (See Hygiene and Cleaning).

All classrooms at MB have been configured to maximize spacing between students and, where possible, desks have been arranged so that students face in the same direction. Assigned seating will be used in all classes, and in MS/US a ‘teacher zone’ will be maintained that is separated by 6-9’ from everyone else. In the Upper School, the largest sections have been scheduled into the largest spaces. If weather permits, we will hold classes outdoors when possible. To that end, we have purchased additional picnic tables and will be erecting tents at various locations on campus.

Many hallways and stairwells on campus have been designated as one-way and clearly marked with signage on the walls and floors. Similar to the practice at many grocery stores, this strategy reduces congestion and proximity, which lessens the potential for transmission of the virus. Especially in the Upper School, the logistics of pedestrian traffic flow are going to need to be coordinated and monitored carefully. All community members will need to be vigilant about complying.
Hygiene and Cleaning

Careful and consistent personal hygiene is key to combating the spread of infectious disease. All members of the MB community should wash their hands frequently with soap and water or hand sanitizer (especially before and after classes, meals, or using the restroom), and practice sneezing or coughing into their sleeve. Hand sanitizer stands and portable hand-washing stations have been positioned in various locations on campus, together with signage encouraging good hygiene.

Consistent cleaning and disinfecting practices also reduce potential transmission of the virus, and prior to our return to school in September, MB's campus will undergo thorough cleaning. Consistent with state guidelines, MB follows CDC guidance for schools regarding the cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces and spaces, including the use of EPA-approved disinfectants. We have also upgraded air handling units with hospital-grade MERV-13 filters that screen out aerosol particles and installed UV light disinfection at key locations in ductwork.

Every classroom and office has been equipped with spray disinfectant and micro-fiber towels. Teachers will ensure that high-touch classroom surfaces such as door handles and desktops are cleaned multiple times per day, and especially between uses by different groups. Staff will do the same for their offices and conference spaces. Sharing of materials by students, e.g., in an art studio or science lab, will be limited to the extent possible, and all shared items will be cleaned between uses.

MB has added more housekeeping staff for this year in order to provide frequent daytime cleaning of public spaces like bathrooms, libraries, and staff rooms. Shared play equipment in the gym or on the playground will be cleaned between uses.
According to CDC guidelines, certain factors make some groups more vulnerable to contracting severe illness from COVID-19 than others. High-risk groups include anyone age 65 or older, and anyone living with hypertension, diabetes, pulmonary disease, immunosuppression, and/or other chronic, long-term health conditions identified by the CDC.

Members of the MB community—student, faculty, or staff—who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should consult with a doctor as to the advisability of returning to school, and then speak with their Division Head, supervisor, the Chief Financial Officer, or Head of School. The school will work on a case-by-case basis to support these medically vulnerable groups in returning to school or considering potential accommodations such as adjusting schedules, minimizing interactions, or working/learning from home. The entire MB community will need to work in partnership to support those who need accommodation during the pandemic, while also respecting every person’s right to privacy.
It’s clear that the prolonged global health crisis has impacted the mental health of individuals, families, and the culture of entire communities. As an educational institution devoted to fostering the Inner Light of each individual, Moses Brown recognizes that some members of the school community may need additional care and support as we continue to navigate these unprecedented circumstances.

Our approach to supporting mental health at MB during the pandemic will be shaped around three priorities:

1. Screening for well-being and mental health concerns
2. Providing social-emotional education about trauma and resiliency, as well as individualized care and referral for those in need; and
3. Providing accommodations and flexibility for those experiencing social and emotional challenges.

Prior to the start of school, MB’s counseling staff (Krista Haskell for N-6, Jessica Stewart for grades 7-12) will facilitate the screening of community members’ well-being. This process will allow members to communicate how they are doing and in what ways they may need follow-up conversation. Screening also will provide Student Support Team members (counselor, Division Head, school nurse, and Director of Student Life in the Upper School) a sense of individual and group mental health needs.

MB’s counseling staff will also share educational material related to the impact of crisis, trauma, grief/loss, and effective coping. This includes resources on self-care as well as information to help faculty support students under difficult circumstances.

Our counselors are developing ways to incorporate increased social-emotional education on an ongoing basis. In addition, the staff will continue to be available resources for the school community. Counselors maintain active participation in Student Support Team meetings, consistent contact with advisors, and ongoing availability for students, families, and employees for individual care.

Our goal is to ensure that anyone who may be struggling with social-emotional challenges continues to feel welcome and able to function at school to the best of their ability. Those with mental health needs will be supported through direct care from counseling staff as well as supportive accommodations and flexibility designed to limit, as much as is possible, the degree to which their mental health difficulties negatively impact their ability to participate in daily life at MB. This accommodation process is facilitated by the counseling staff and Student Support Team members, working collaboratively with family members, students, and/or employees.
Our plans for reopening Moses Brown are shaped by care for our whole community. Our approach to supporting faculty, staff, students and families is grounded in our commitment to justice and our understanding of societal inequities. We know that people of color are disproportionately suffering the medical, financial, and social impacts of the pandemic and, further, that the pandemic has given voice to harassment and discrimination for Asians and Asian-Americans. We know too that the stresses of the pandemic are hitting at a time when people of color and their allies are protesting and advocating for long-denied human rights and protections.

Knowing that we are a diverse community, comprised of families with different challenges and needs, we are committed to framing discussions, advocating for justice, listening to needs and doing what it takes to create inclusivity and equity throughout our community. From addressing family financial needs, to providing technology and other resources to learners, to hosting student affinity spaces, to providing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion professional development for all employees, we are committed to delivering the promise of an MB education to all our students. We hope that this commitment is evident in our reopening plan and in the broader program of the school. The Head of School, Assistant Heads, Division Heads, and our three All-School Diversity Tri-Clerks (Elizabeth Grumbach, Karim Sow, and Erik Wilker) are available and eager to discuss the school’s efforts in this area and to hear how we can better serve the needs of our heterogenous community.
Understanding the significant role that physical activity plays in the overall well-being of children, the Moses Brown Athletic Department is committed to providing student-athletes with an opportunity to engage in activities that will continue to develop their physical and emotional health. Moses Brown plans to offer team-based athletic activity this fall in the Middle and Upper school. We are awaiting state guidance on interscholastic competition, but we are committed to offering athletic programming under a range of scenarios.

Team-based physical activities—e.g., sports camps—have been operating successfully in Rhode Island and at Moses Brown since late June. Current guidelines from the CDC, RIDOH, the Rhode Island Interscholastic League (RIIL), and the National Federation of State High School Associations recommend that team-based physical activities should be limited to stable groups or pods of 15 and that there should be no scrimmages or competition between pods. Using these guidelines, the Athletic Department recently authorized and published protocols for on-campus summer team workouts for Upper School student-athletes.

We expect to receive updated guidance soon from the RIDOH and the RIIL on interscholastic competition and related issues of player safety, transportation, and spectators for the fall season. We will publish updated and more detailed plans as that information becomes available. In the meantime, based on current guidelines, MB will continue to implement the following workout protocols for all teams this fall:

- Teams must workout/practice within dedicated pods that are limited to 15 (including the coach) and will be required to maintain a 14-foot distance from other groups.
- Coaches will either designate a staff member to each pod or they will instruct from a coach’s box 14 feet away from each group in order to effectively coach multiple athletes and groups at once.
- Athletes will be required to wear face coverings when they are out of their designated pods and maintain a 6-foot distance from each other. (We recommend that students participating in physical activities purchase a neck gaiter).
- All athletic equipment will be cleaned with EPA-certified disinfectant after each practice and electrostatic disinfectant spraying will be utilized daily in the training and locker rooms. (The fitness room will not be available during our initial reopening, but it will receive daily electrostatic disinfecting once opened.)
- The training room will be limited to three students at a time and enhanced safety precautions will be implemented to reduce crowding and increase cleanliness for all students receiving treatment.
- All coaches will be required to complete a COVID-19 training before the start of the fall season, and they will be equipped with supplies and training to help maintain a safe and clean environment for student-athletes.
- Current plans call for all athletic programming to take place on campus. We will continue to consider the use of Milot Fields (Rehoboth, Mass.) based on the latest safety and transportation guidelines.

As we await guidance from the Governor’s Task Force and the RIIL on fall sports, the Athletic Department continues to prepare for a fall season and is committed to providing meaningful in-person training, exercise, social interaction, and hopefully, competition for our students.
In Lower School, enrollment in the Extended Day program will move to a seasonal or trimester basis. This will allow us to create and maintain consistent attendance and stable groups in accordance with state guidelines. (Unfortunately, this change means that fluctuating, day-to-day enrollment can no longer be accommodated.) Drawn from two consecutive grades (e.g., K+1st, 2nd+3rd), Extended Day pods will each have their own teacher and will engage in activity separately from other groups. As is the case during the school day, the students will be asked to wear masks unless they are eating or drinking. We will have definitive pick up times in order to make transitions as safe and efficient as possible, most likely 4:30pm and 5:30pm. MB After 3 Enrichment programming will be temporarily suspended for Fall 2020.

Other after-school activities also will take place, but with similar restrictions. To the extent possible, students will be organized into stable afternoon pods. Students who are not part of a supervised afternoon activity—such as a play or a team—will need to be in a specified location from the end of school until they leave campus for the day. These assigned areas will be monitored to ensure that students maintain appropriate protocols—physical distance, wearing masks, etc.—during this time at school.
Some MB students take advantage of public school bus routes to travel to and from school. Parents of these students should familiarize themselves with safety guidelines that will be published by each respective town. These likely will include: physical distancing at bus stops; availability of hand sanitizer on the bus; all riders and drivers wearing masks; symptom screening; assigned seats, arranged to maximize physical distancing; appropriate signage; and cleaning and disinfecting of the bus between uses.

Moses Brown also contracts with a private company to provide bus or van transportation from/to various regions in R.I. and southeastern Massachusetts. MB will ensure that this service meets or exceeds the safety guidelines recommended for public school transportation.

**Students, faculty, and staff tend to access the MB campus each morning in four basic ways:**

1. On foot from the Carpenter Gate near Morris and Alumni avenues;
2. By car in the Hope Street parking lot, either parking on campus or dropping off next to Ross House;
3. By bus at the Front Gate on Lloyd Avenue; and
4. By car from Lloyd Avenue, either parking on campus or dropping off in front of Friends Hall.

These separate locations will help mitigate congestion naturally. Nevertheless, it’s critical that everyone arriving on campus wear a mask and practice six-foot physical distancing diligently.

Students in Lower and Middle School will be assigned specific doors for accessing their building. Everyone should avoid crowding through an open door in a mass.

Temperature screening at entrances is an important new element in MB’s drop-off/arrival procedures. See Screening and Self-Attestation.
Meetings, Special Events, and Group Gatherings

In order to limit congestion and minimize the number of visitors coming to the MB campus, many routine meetings (e.g., Administrative Council, committees, Parents’ Association) will continue to take place virtually by means of the Zoom platform. No in-person meeting should take place unless six-foot physical distancing can be maintained among all participants. Tables or desks used for a meeting should be wiped down afterward with disinfectant spray.

Current guidelines for Phase III of R.I.’s reopening set a limit of 125 on the size of indoor public gatherings, and 250 for outdoor. This may change before the start of school on September 2. In the meantime, in order to comply with this stipulation, we are making alternate plans for important elements of our program such as Meeting for Worship, which will take place in smaller groups (e.g., advisory) or virtually (by means of Zoom). Relatedly, we are working on contingency plans for some of MB’s larger public events in the fall, e.g., New Parents Reception, Admissions Open House. In all cases, MB will abide by state guidelines for limiting the size of indoor and outdoor events. This limit will also impact other elements of MB’s program: see Dining and Catering; Athletics, Co-Curriculars and After-School Programs.
In order to reduce congestion, maximize physical distancing, and maintain the usual duration of lunch periods, significant changes will be required for MB’s dining and catering service provided by SAGE. SAGE staff played a key role in our reopening planning, and we hope that these changes and safety measures will be temporary.

Light grab-and-go fare (coffee, muffins etc.) will be available on an à la carte (retail) basis in the Woodman café at all hours except during lunch. High touch surfaces and implements will be cleaned frequently.

À la carte (retail) sales will not be available during lunch hours in any location. This means that students, faculty, and staff need to sign up for the SAGE meal plan or bring a lunch from home. This limitation is necessary because of our need to reduce congestion, maximize seating capacity in the dining hall, and not extend the duration of lunch periods.

For all students, faculty, and staff enrolled in the meal plan, SAGE has devised a new program that is customized to the current circumstances, sort of school-based version of a service like Grubhub. Each week, participants in the plan will be prompted to make menu selections for the following week by means of SAGE’s convenient app, choosing from among four major lunch options each day: salad plus protein; deli sandwich; hot entrée; or specialty meal (e.g., vegetarian). Each meal includes a side order such as fresh fruit or chips as well as a drink. Meals will be prepared, packaged, labelled with individual participants’ names, and then delivered to an assigned location on campus. The app includes a clear and effective tool for identifying and screening for a wide range of allergens. While self-serve elements of MB’s dining service such as the salad bar, soups, and paninis will no longer be available due to safety considerations, this program offers a significant amount of choice and personalization with a focus on balanced nutrition, local sourcing, and sustainable packaging.

Lower School students will eat in their classrooms; Middle and Upper School students will eat in assigned locations (e.g., outdoors in good weather, the dining hall, a classroom, or in another public space). The dining hall will be configured with far fewer tables and chairs than normal, so that physical distancing can be maintained. Tables will be equipped with plexiglass dividers and disinfected frequently. When eating on campus, all community members must maintain six-foot physical distancing and dispose of trash and recycling appropriately.

SAGE’s routine catering service—e.g., continental breakfast for various meetings—will be suspended until further notice except for approved public events.
Due to the risks involved in traveling and visiting unfamiliar places, daytime field trips and overnight trips will not take place during MB’s initial reopening. Learning through travel and hands-on exploration is integral to MB’s educational program at all levels, and we are especially sorry that Middle School Team Trips and the 9th Grade Orientation trip will not be taking place this year. (Division Heads are working on alternate plans that don’t involve traveling.) Currently, we are still moving ahead with planning for next spring and summer’s trips that are part of the Travel, Research, and Immersion Programs—TRIPs—including: 5th and 6th grade trip to Washington, DC; Dominican Republic Medical Service; Galápagos Islands; Italy; Kenya Service Learning; Switzerland & Germany: Global Student Leadership Summit. Clearly, whether these trips run will be dependent on public health conditions. More information about this program for 2020-21 will be forthcoming from Director of Global Education and Social Innovation, Dr. Gara Field.
Prior to school reopening, MB faculty and staff will undertake training focused on the protocols, practices, and guidelines described in this plan. Ample signage will be installed around the campus to remind the school community about required procedures. When students return on September 2, Division heads, advisors, and teachers will work with them to make sure they understand what is expected of them—and the whole community—in order for our return to school to be successful. Moving ahead, the school will continue to use email as the primary means of communication with parents and will remain committed to keeping the community closely informed as the pandemic continues to evolve. This Reopening Plan will be updated accordingly as new public health information becomes available.
Assumption of Risk and Social Compact

By choosing to work or enroll at MB for the 2020-21 school year, all community members acknowledge and agree that:

a. the school has taken reasonable steps to mitigate the risk of transmission;
b. despite these steps, there is a risk that a community member could contract COVID-19;
c. they knowingly and voluntarily assume that risk on their behalf (or their child’s); and
d. they accept full responsibility for their own health and safety on campus and commit to following all guidelines and instructions issued by the school.
What do students and parents need to do in order for MB to open successfully?

1. Read “Reopening Moses Brown—A Plan for Fall 2020.”
2. Follow the “Big Four” safety guidelines:
   a. Stay home if sick;
   b. Wash hands frequently and sneeze/cough into sleeve;
   c. Wear a mask;
   d. Practice physical distancing.
3. Follow any other guidelines and instructions from state and federal officials.
5. Pick up a sick child within one hour of notification.
6. Except in a stable pod in Lower School, maintain 6 feet of distance from all faculty and staff.
7. Inform the school if a member of the family becomes ill or tests positive for COVID-19.
8. Parents: Limit visits to campus to the absolutely essential; always check in on arrival.
9. Be understanding and supportive of others’ circumstances during the pandemic.
10. Seek support and resources for managing stress and maintaining mental health.
What do faculty and staff need to do in order for MB to open successfully?

1. Read “Reopening Moses Brown—A Plan for Fall 2020.”
2. Be open to doing things differently, taking on new responsibilities as needed, and engaging in new kinds of training.
3. Follow the “Big Four” safety guidelines:
   a. Stay home if sick;
   b. Wash hands frequently and sneeze/cough into sleeve;
   c. Wear a mask;
   d. Practice physical distancing.
4. Follow any other guidelines and instructions from state and federal officials.
6. Maintain 6 feet of distance from all adults and students (except those in a stable pod).
7. Assist with daily screening and cleaning protocols.
8. Inform the school if ill or positive for COVID-19.
9. Be understanding and supportive of others’ circumstances during the pandemic.
10. Seek support and resources for managing stress and maintaining mental health.
Listed below are all the health and safety protocols outlined in the Moses Brown School Re-Opening Manual.

In developing these protocols, Moses Brown relied most heavily on guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control, the R.I. Department of Health, the World Health Organization, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the following local experts – all of whom have vested interest in our school and the well-being of our community, including: the school’s Consulting Physician Dr. Judith Shaw (spouse of long-time faculty member, Bruce Shaw), pediatrician Dr. Cindy Klipfel (Upper School parent), infectious disease specialist Dr. Maria Mileno (parent of three MB alumni), emergency medicine specialist Dr. Sam Goldman (spouse of faculty member Katie Goldman), and economist Dr. Emily Oster (Lower School parent), one of the leaders of the reopening team at Brown University who has also become among the most respected national voices on COVID-related data analysis and policy.

1. **Prior to school reopening, MB faculty and staff will undertake training** focused on the protocols, practices, and guidelines described in this plan. Ample signage will be installed around the campus to remind the school community about required procedures.

2. When school opens on September 2, **division heads, advisors, and teachers will work with students to make sure they understand what is expected of them**—and the whole community—in order for our return to school to be successful.

3. **Masks** must be worn everywhere on campus except a) in Nursery, Pre-Primary, and Kindergarten if students are within stable groups; b) when doing so is prohibitive, e.g., eating or playing sports; and c) when working alone in an office.

4. **All MB employees will also be provided a clear plastic face shield.** Wearing a face shield is not required but is a good option for those who want additional protection. Wearing both a mask and a shield is recommended if close contact with someone outside a stable pod is absolutely necessary. Wearing a plastic shield cannot safely take the place of wearing a cloth mask.

5. **Six feet of physical distancing** is required everywhere on campus except where not feasible in classrooms. As recommended by the World Health Organization and the American Academy of Pediatrics, 3-foot distancing will be the minimal standard among students in classrooms. Adults should strive to maintain six feet of distance from others at all times.

6. **All members of the MB community should wash their hands frequently** with soap and water or hand sanitizer (especially before and after classes, meals, or using the restroom), and practice sneezing or coughing into their sleeve.

7. **All members of the MB community must perform a daily self-screen at home prior to coming to school and attest to being asymptomatic via a convenient app called SchoolPass.** No student will be allowed in a campus building without having completed their daily self-screen. Visitors to campus will be limited, but those who do come must complete the same screening at check-in.

8. **The temperature of all students arriving on campus will be checked manually with no-touch thermometers** at their assigned entrance before entering buildings.
9. New facility operations, cleaning and hygiene protocols include:
   - air handling units outfitted with hospital-grade MERV-13 filters that screen out aerosol particles and UV light sterilization in ductwork;
   - new hand sanitizer and portable hand-washing stations have been installed in numerous locations throughout campus;
   - increased housekeeping staff will undertake regular cleaning (throughout the school day) of public spaces like bathrooms, libraries, and staff rooms;
   - shared play equipment in the gym or on the playgrounds will be cleaned between uses;
   - all spaces that are shared by stable groups, or used by Upper School students who are not in stable groups, will be cleaned frequently and in between uses;
   - EPA approved disinfectant will be provided in every classroom and office; faculty and staff will be expected to wash desks and other high-touch surfaces in classrooms and offices between uses;
   - new hygiene signage campus-wide.

10. All Lower School students will be organized into stable pods of around 15 or less within each grade level during the entire school day. Each stable group will use the same entrance, classroom, hallways, and bathrooms every day.

11. Enrollment in the Extended Day program will move to a seasonal or trimester basis. This will allow us to create and maintain consistent attendance and stable groups in accordance with state guidelines. Unfortunately, this change means that fluctuating, day-to-day enrollment can no longer be accommodated. Drawn from two consecutive grades (e.g., K+1st, 2nd+3rd), Extended Day pods will each have their own teacher and will engage in activity separately from other groups. As is the case during the school day, the students will be asked to wear masks unless they are eating or drinking.

12. Middle school students will be organized into grade-level sections/pods for English, History, Math, Science, Art, World Languages, and Physical Education. Stable pods will not be possible in every music class, where grade-level mixing is typical, but there, a combination of mask wearing, distancing, and/or remote teaching will be used. Each stable group will use the same entrance, classroom, hallways, and bathrooms every day.

13. For high schools, the R.I. guidelines encourage stable groups but acknowledge that this will not be feasible in most schools (this is the case at MB), where students gather in different configurations for different subjects. As recommended by the World Health Organization and the American Academy of Pediatrics, 3-foot distancing will be the minimal standard among upper school students in classrooms – along with a 6-9’ teacher zone at the front of the room. Since students and teachers will be blending into different groups during the school day, mask wearing and practicing physical distancing at all times will be essential in the Upper School.

14. Assigned seating will be used in all classes, and in MS/US a ‘teacher zone’ will be maintained that is separated by at least six feet from everyone else.

15. De-densifying: using every inch of our campus (inside and out). We will install large tents to help provide socially distanced lunch and a space for Upper School students during free periods. Conference rooms and large offices may become classrooms and we are dramatically expanding outdoor seating (picnic tables everywhere!). Pathways will also change; many hallways and stairways will become one-way and students will be assigned entrances. A number of outdoor classroom areas will be established and their use will be encouraged on nice weather days.
16. Until further notice, the dining program provided by SAGE will involve boxed (grab-and-go) lunches distributed from different locations on campus. LS students will eat in their classrooms, M/US students in the dining hall (reduced seating capacity), classrooms, and other approved locations (tents, outside, Sinclair Room etc.). À la carte (retail) coffee and snacks will be available (in Woodman) in the morning, but not at lunch. Students, faculty, and staff must either join the meal plan or bring lunch from home.

17. Students who are not part of a supervised afternoon activity—such as a play or a team—will need to be in a specified location from the end of school until they leave campus for the day. These assigned areas will be monitored to ensure that students maintain appropriate protocols—physical distance, wearing masks, etc.—during this time at school. To the extent possible, students will be organized into stable afternoon pods.

18. Sharing of materials by students, e.g., in an art studio or science lab, will be limited to the extent possible, and all shared items will be cleaned between uses.

19. We are committed to supporting the mental health of our community during the pandemic, with three priorities in mind: 1) Screening for wellbeing and mental health concerns; 2) Providing social-emotional education about trauma and resiliency, as well as individualized care and referral for those in need; and 3) Providing accommodations and flexibility for those experiencing social and emotional challenges.

20. Anyone showing symptoms of COVID-19 must stay or return home immediately. Parents must arrange for a sick child to be picked up from school within one hour of notification. Return to school allowed only with a doctor’s note.

21. Anyone—students, parents, faculty, or staff—who tests positive for COVID-19, or who has had close contact with a COVID-19 patient, must inform the school nurse and RIDOH and then follow the instructions of RIDOH, including isolation or quarantining. Return to school will be allowed only after completing requirements as directed by RIDOH. If a member of the MB community tests positive, the school will first inform all close contacts and then the community as a whole, attesting to the positive case but excluding the individual’s identity and explaining steps the school is taking to mitigate the risk of further spread (e.g., deep cleaning, quarantine, temporary closure of portions of the campus etc.)

22. Consistent with current state guidelines, anyone coming to Rhode Island from any state with 5% or greater positivity rate must quarantine for 14 days or show proof of a negative test within the past 72 hours. A list of states that fall into that category, updated weekly, can be found here.

23. MB is required to keep a 30-day log of all visitors (including name, date, phone, and arrival/departure time) to support contact tracing.

24. MB will not be hosting any admissions candidates in school buildings for at least the first month of the school year.

25. Any member of the MB community who is personally at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should consult with their doctor as to the advisability of returning to school, and then speak with their supervisor, the Chief Financial Officer, or Head of School. The school will work on a case-by-case basis to support these medically vulnerable groups in returning to school or considering potential accommodations such as adjusting schedules, minimizing interactions, or working/learning from home. MB is ready to provide mental health support and resources to those in need.
26. Current guidelines from the CDC, RIDOH, the Rhode Island Interscholastic League (RIIL), and the National Federation of State High School Associations recommend that team-based physical activities should be limited to stable groups or pods of 15 and that there should be no scrimmages or competition between pods. Using these guidelines, the Athletic Department recently authorized and published protocols for on-campus summer team workouts for Upper School student-athletes. MB athletic safety protocols for M/US students will be updated once guidelines on fall sports are provided by the state.

27. Moses Brown will ensure that its contracted bus services meet or exceed the safety guidelines recommended for public school transportation (physical distancing at bus stops; availability of hand sanitizer on the bus; all riders and drivers wearing masks; symptom screening; assigned seats, arranged to maximize physical distancing; appropriate signage; and cleaning and disinfecting of the bus between uses).

28. There will be new protocols for drop-off and pick-up (no parents permitted in the LS building), including assigned entrances for LS and MS, mask wearing, physical distancing, and temperature checking.

29. No in-person meetings allowed unless 6’ distancing can be maintained. To limit congestion and minimize the number of visitors coming to the MB campus, many routine meetings (e.g., Administrative Council, Board committees, Alumni and Parents’ Associations, Divisional parent coffees, etc.) will continue to take place virtually by means of Zoom. The current state limit on indoor gatherings (125), coupled with physical distancing guidelines, will require creative approaches to Meeting for Worship, assemblies, and some of our treasured annual events.

30. Field Trips—no day or overnight trips until further notice. Unfortunately, this means MS Team Trips as well as the 9th grade orientation trip will be cancelled (division heads and faculty are working on other plans to welcome and orient students).

31. Assumption of Risk and Social Compact

By choosing to work or enroll at MB for the 2020-21 school year, all community members acknowledge and agree that: a) the school has taken reasonable steps to mitigate the risk of transmission; b) despite these steps, there is a risk that a community member could contract COVID-19; c) they knowingly and voluntarily assume that risk on their behalf (or their child’s); and d) they accept full responsibility for their own health and safety on campus and commit to following all guidelines and instructions issued by the school.