



## In-person Kindergarten and Preschool – Aug 5th

Dear BVWS Early Childhood Families,

As most of you know, news in the area is currently focused on the local school districts' decisions to start the school year in remote learning for K-12 education.

Why is BVWS taking a different approach than local districts for Kindergarten?

Ultimately it comes down to size and facilities. We will be serving under 50 preschool and kindergarten students in our Early Childhood licensed program - on an expansive campus and with very small cohorts. At our scale we can implement and sustain all of the State and County mandated safety standards in a way that a large district—which has to contend with school buses, food services, big shared buildings for a network of schools, each containing 500-3000 students—cannot.

At present BVWS and other local small independent schools are not being asked to go to distance learning. On the contrary, our County health officials are emphasizing that it is in children's best interest to be learning in-person just as long as the safety systems are in place. We have a great environment for success. We will be running contained cohorts in wide-open spaces. Our classrooms have individual entryways, our own bathrooms, and we are staffing to ensure no mixing of or crossing over of teachers into other cohorts outside of emergencies, where we will be taking appropriate precaution. We are intending to do daily health checks with each family upon arrival including temperature check, questionnaires, and symptoms check for the family. We all want this to work for the children's health and wellbeing, so we will be encouraging families to mask up, wash hands, stay close to home and be safe! That will keep us going strong!

As the days have started to cool and we transition to Fall and the new school year, we are looking to finalize our new enrollments in the coming weeks. With that in mind, expect to hear from your child's teacher after the weekend.

Best wishes for your continued good health,

Jennifer Powell-Palmer and Rachel Ladasky Nielsen