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Dear Lesley Ellis Community,

Earlier this month I hosted opportunities for all of you to join in conversations about our evolving plans for the fall. Many of you were able to join and had the opportunity to ask questions. For those of you who attended, you soon found out that we don't have all the answers. As further guidance comes from various components of our state and federal government (DPH, EEC, DESE, CDC), we will have further clarification and details to share with you about your children's experiences in September at Lesley Ellis.

One of the big topics during the conversations was risk mitigation. Obviously, this is important to all of us, and our goal is to keep our community as healthy as possible as we head into the fall and our planned return to the building in September. Over the last few months, our team has been diligently focused on this topic. Our plan for risk mitigation centers on physical distancing and cohort groups; hand hygiene; mask wearing; and cleaning and disinfecting. We are in the process of developing our [COVID-19 Policies and Procedures](#). The preceding link gives you the opportunity to see where we currently are in the process based on the information available to date. Please note that the document is not complete and will most certainly be revised and updated prior to the start of school. My intent is to give you an insight into our planning.

There is no doubt that school and our programs will look and feel different in September, and there are aspects of our return that we continue to work on as we await further information and clarification from the state. I'm confident that we will have our plans in place prior to September and (as

long as long as we are in at least Phase III in Massachusetts), we will welcome your children back to the building at that time. For parents who were able to attend one of the Chats with Deanne earlier this month, I shared a comment from a couple of school leaders from international schools whose schools had been out and had gone back prior to the end of the school year -- "What you gain when you get your students back on campus is worth it."

We can do this.

Deanne

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