



# **CARIBBEAN SCHOOL, INC.**

**Urb. La Rambla**

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January 8, 2022

Dear Panther Community –

As we know the COVID positivity rate of Puerto Rico is at an all-time high. We would like to give you an update regarding school operations. Though the Governor's Orders have required public schools to close, and recommended the same for independent schools, we understand the importance of continuing to provide educational services for our families, so we will continue with our plan to open Monday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> in virtual learning mode. We all have to wrap our heads around the idea that it may be awhile before we are capable of returning to normal; in school, as well as in life.

Returning from the Holidays, we have felt the direct impact of COVID on our school. Though the positivity rate among our teachers (18%) is half of that reported for the island, we must proceed cautiously to protect our children and staff, while sustaining services for our students.

We have developed a plan that will allow us to be flexible and adapt to possible staff fluctuations in the future. Our priority will be to protect our CORE PROGRAM of studies. This may require us to move staff from "specials" classes (PE, art, technology) to monitor independent work assigned in core classes, which could mean an occasional cancellation of art, PE, or technology class. Should this happen, you will receive notice in the morning of the class cancellation. We hope we will not have to resort to this often, but the situation merits having this Plan B in place. For the moment all music classes will be temporarily canceled.

We will be updating our status as the Island's status evolves, and Government requirements are modified. I understand it is difficult to plan with the uncertainty of COVID's impact, but in part this is because we continue to remain flexible and adjust as quickly as possible, offering the optimal choice based on the variables in play at the moment. For planning purposes, it is best to consider Virtual Learning as the academic offer, until conditions develop that require from us, or offer to us other options.

Grateful for having your continued support.

Warm regards,

Cindy Pieterick MEd

Head of School