To: Preuss Parents and Guardians  
From: Dr. Helen V. Griffith, Executive Director  
Date: August 3, 2021  
RE: THE PREUSS SCHOOL RE-OPENING, 2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR

Dear Parents and Guardians:

WELCOME to the 2021-22 school year! This will be our transitional year to on campus learning and we are excited to greet your scholars on the first day of instruction, Monday, August 9th. As we open the school this year with in-person learning, please review the following policies and procedures that will guide our safe return. Many of the changes that affect our campus this year such as transportation, our school schedule, and the safety protocols were dictated to us as a result of the effects of the pandemic. This letter will outline the changes in transportation, our school schedule, and the COVID safety protocols.

COVID PROTOCOLS

The following COVID protocols have been passed down to us from the Office of the President of the University of California. These policies are designed to manage the continued spread of the COVID-19 virus on all campuses within the University of California system. Since our school is a part of the system, as we are housed and chartered by UC San Diego, these same policies apply to The Preuss School UC San Diego.

Masking  
Regardless of vaccination status, the current policy at UC San Diego requires that everyone must wear a mask indoors. This includes all indoor settings including public transportation and school buses, (including any UC vehicle transporting employees or students from different households).

For outdoor settings, face coverings will not be required for fully vaccinated individuals except in crowded environments (300 people or more) such as sporting events, concerts and fairs.

All campus members and visitors should have a mask with them at all times while on campus. If a campus community member or visitor does not have a face covering while on campus, they will be provided with one. University guidance will continue to evolve as Federal, State and County guidance is modified in response to the current health environment.
Screening
All faculty, staff and students who report in person to a UC San Diego site must continue to complete the daily screening tool. This summer we launched our COVID screener for scholars. Therefore, our Preuss students will need to complete the Scholar symptom screener every day prior to the start of the school day. The results are sent to the Preuss School Nurse, Marie Doherty for further review. If your child does not pass the screener and is showing signs of illness, please keep your child at home and contact the school office to report their absence and speak with Nurse Marie for next steps.

The Preuss faculty and staff will continue to complete the daily Faculty and staff symptom tracker.

Testing
Faculty, staff and students can take a COVID test on the Preuss campus that will be overseen by Nurse Marie. The schedule for testing will be determined based upon guidance from the UC San Diego COVID management team. Once this is established, Nurse Marie will publish the schedule and expectations for COVID testing.

Vaccination
For the safety and well-being of the entire university community, the University of California has issued a COVID vaccination policy that will require, with few exceptions, that all students, faculty and staff be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus before they will be allowed on campus, in a facility or office. Individuals will be required to show proof of vaccination, and UC locations are preparing for how they will record vaccination status. For more information on the policies, please see the Vaccination requirement for UC employees and the Vaccination requirement for students.

Though the UC policy goes into effect September 1, 2021, in order to protect the Preuss community, we strongly recommend faculty and staff be vaccinated against COVID-19 prior to entering the Preuss campus on August 9th. The onsite COVID vaccination station is open in the Price Center ballroom next to COVID testing in the Price Center. No appointment is needed and there are appointments currently available all day, every weekday. Further, we are trying to schedule a vaccination clinic on the Preuss campus in the near future. We will post additional information as it becomes available.

TRANSPORTATION
Due to the effects of the pandemic, all transportation providers are experiencing a shortage of drivers, equipment, and the new law mandating all California schools start after 8:30am. Up until May of this year, we had no transportation providers for our scholars. Recently, the San Diego Unified School District agreed to offer the Preuss School a bus quote only if we could change our schedule from 10:00am to 5:00pm. Therefore, during this transition year only, the San Diego Unified Transportation Department will provide busing at a cost to our school of $1.9 million dollars. We are currently in the planning stages of developing self-sustaining transportation for the 2022-23 school year and beyond. We will have additional parent meetings to involve your voice in our planning efforts. This week, the busing schedule will be sent for your scholar(s). Ms. Patty Villanueva has continued to work with SD Unified as our onsite Transportation Lead to ensure that we have a great year.
SCHOOL SCHEDULE
Beginning August 9, 2021 our school day schedule will start at 10:00am and end at 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. There will be no late busses and all activities will happen between the hours of 10:00am to 5:00pm. At the end of each school day, we have integrated protected time for tutoring, homework help, credit recovery, extracurricular activities, mentoring, and clubs, etc. It is the plan to return to the 8:55am to 4:00pm school day for the 2022-23 school year.

MEALS
To support the new school schedule, we have arranged a morning Nutrition Snack upon arrival to school each day. Lunch will be served midday, as usual, and we have added a dinner meal at the end of the day for all scholars. We recognize that proper nutrition fuels the brain and maximizes its ability to expand learning opportunities.

SATURDAY ENRICHMENT ACADEMY
The Saturday Academy will be held during this school year. The dates have been included on the School Calendar link in this message. It is the hope that your scholar will take advantage of the opportunity for additional support with our qualified faculty and tutors. The first day of Saturday Academy is August 21st.

ATHLETICS
We will return to participate in athletics this year according to the most recent CDE and CIF guidelines. Sports teams will practice and participate in games according to the established schedules. More information will be published by our Athletic Director, Coach Fulchiron.

SCHOOL CALENDAR
We have attached our school calendar and hope you save the date for our Back-to-School Night on Thursday, September 16, 2021.

Together, we will achieve great things in this new and extraordinary school year!

Much love and respect!

CC: Dr. Robert “Chip” Schooley, M.D.
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UC San Diego Health
Physician of Record, The Preuss School UC San Diego

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