



# Valley Stream Christian Academy

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June 11, 2020

Dear VSCA Families,

We will soon be closing out the 2019-20 school year and for many of you, this could not have come soon enough. The sudden closing of schools, as well as most businesses, was more than unexpected and I believe most of us are still dealing with the ripple effects. I wish I could say that we have a clear vision of what is coming next, but I am just as much in the dark as everyone else. I have not been privy to any information about what the upcoming school year will look like. I can only say that we continue to work on and have plans in place for EVERY scenario that may occur. As always, I want to be completely transparent with our families and staff, which means I must address the number of students that we will be able to enroll for the fall. We are being warned that class sizes may need to be drastically reduced in order to have the proper distance between each student. We are making arrangements to move classes around to allow for the maximum that is possible and we are ready to implement the on/off schedule, but we have received no further information on what this must look like. At the same time, it is my responsibility to keep the school financially healthy. The "Save Your Seat Fee" is an important component in preparing for the next school year. Staff contracts as well as other expenditures are affected by our numbers. We already know that our current budget will be exceeded as we begin to purchase new curriculum, technology and platforms that are better suited for a remote experience. We also continue to interview and accept new incoming students. To that end, if you are planning on returning for the 2020/21 school year, it is imperative that you secure your child's seat as soon as possible. We know that there are a few families who are considering moving from the area or for other reasons, know that they will not be able to return. If this is the case, we ask that you please contact Ms. Hough at the office [(516) 561-6122], to let her know of your decision. We understand that these are uncertain times for many, but we hope you understand the difficult position we have in trying to accommodate everyone's needs.

The time is also coming when we will be giving students their personal items which were left behind. We will also need students to return books which belong to BOCES or VSCA. Because we must follow self distancing guidelines while this is taking place, we will be sending each family a sign-up sheet for getting a day and time when this can take place. Please follow this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0949A5AE29A5FC1-vsca> if you have a child in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and this link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0949A5AE2AA4FE3-6th12th1> if you have a child in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade. 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade student's schedule will include cleaning out their lockers. We ask that students bring their own bags to carry out the items from lockers.

And finally, just a reminder that we are still scheduled to have our graduation and awards ceremonies on Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. It is still unclear as to how many individuals will be permitted in the building, although that number seems to grow each week! We will keep you posted! With all the challenges this school year has brought, I hope you have been able to stay focused on what REALLY matters-our relationship with Jesus-plain and simple. He is aware of everything we are confronted with and will provide wisdom, peace and yes, joy, in the midst of EVERY circumstance.

God Bless,

Leslie Fowley