



REVISED REOPENING PLAN

January 10, 2022

Dear DJCS Families and Staff,

We are eagerly looking forward to welcoming our students back to in-person learning at the MNJCC! The DJCS Board and staff have achieved notable success in supporting all aspects of school life in a blended model. We are fully prepared to succeed in providing both on-site experiences and remote learning experiences. Our full staff successfully attended the November PD day; as well as, all staff were on site December 12, 2021, teaching remotely to prepare for onsite return. We are prepared to return on site as soon as we can. We are fully committed to the mental and physical wellbeing of our future Jewish Leaders; our children are the future.

Due to the fifth wave of the Pandemic, DJCS has decided to delay the return on site until at least February 27, 2022. DJCS will inform one week before returning on site. This time frame offers ample opportunity for staff to be able to get their 3rd dose vaccine and children to be able to acquire their double doses in the age 5-11 category. DJCS Board will be monitoring the situation closely. If the situation allows, DJCS is prepared to return on site earlier.

DJCS Jewish Studies and Hebrew Alef and Bet classes will continue remotely with the same schedule starting Wednesday January 12, 2022 (Alef Classes 4:30-6 pm) and Sunday January 16, 2022 (Jewish Studies 9:30-11 am and Hebrew Alef and Bet 12-1 pm)

As DJCS continues to plan what our return to school will look like, we remain in regular contact with the medical advisory for the MNJCC and Paul Penna, and legal advisory from UJA, Center for Jewish Education Supplemental Schools. Noted most recently is the MNJCC vaccine policy that you have already received, and which requires proof of vaccination and masking for all members, guests, and tenants of the building who are over 12 years of age. As vaccines for children ages 5-11 roll out, DJCS will continue to follow protocol updates.

DJCS is working diligently with the MNJCC logistics and facilities managers to ensure we can resume classes on-site at the optimal time and maintain flexibility according to Toronto Public Health Guidelines and Ministry of Education suggested guidelines. It is becoming clearer now that Jewish Studies will be one cohort for an after-school program onsite. Since Hebrew classes are a separate cohort group from Jewish Studies classes, these classes will continue to meet online at this time in order to maximize everyone's safety.

The MNJCC will continue to sanitize all classrooms before each session. In the meantime, DJCS staff will continue to have weekly safe access to the classrooms and resources to support their lesson preparation.

We remain one community, and with perseverance and understanding we will emerge from this experience together and with strength. We will continue to communicate with you through the DJCS newsletter.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment.

Board of Directors of the Downtown Jewish Community School
Belinda Keshen, Principal