



**2020-2021
TASA
REOPEN PLAN & COVID-19
PROTOCOLS**

**ADDENDUM TO 2020-2021
TASA PARENT-STUDENT HANDBOOK**

Voted on by The Board of Trustees July 21st, 2020

Amended August 27th, 2020

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B”H

Dear Parents,

As we prepare for the upcoming school year at TASA, first and foremost on our minds is the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff.

The information contained in these pages reflect discussions and consultations with our COVID-19 committee, medical professionals, and guidance from local, state and federal agencies. We have done our best to provide you with a clear, concise and practical outline of what we have planned for the school year.

This information and attached acknowledgment of receipt of this packet, is an addendum to the Parent Handbook, which can be found on our website and in an emailed document.

Please know that we will continuously be in contact with all relevant agencies to keep up to date with changes that may occur during the school year and will share them with you.

With all necessary precautions in place and our vigilance, we are confident that we can provide your children with an exciting educational experience. Nonetheless, we cannot guarantee that COVID-19 or other illnesses will not occur at school this school year. No school or organization can make that guarantee. Please make the best decision for you and your family.

The success of our school year depends upon all families openly and honestly communicating whether anyone in their home has tested positive or even has any related symptoms.

Contracting COVID-19 can happen to anyone, even if they are adhering to stay-at-home directives and social distancing protocols. Stigma or silence surrounding this is counterproductive. If we're open and honest with each other, we can keep our school open—and the joy and education that it brings to dozens of families.

As always, feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns that you may have.

With heartfelt prayers for a safe, healthy and enjoyable school year.

Sincerely,

TASA ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. Jessica L. Diric, M.Ed., Director of General Studies

Rabbi Yossi Marrus, Dean of Students/Director of Judaic Studies

1. TASA REOPENING PLAN 2020-2021

Educators, Physicians and Parents are in agreement that it is ideally best for students to be educated in-person and with healthy social interactions. These last months have been extremely trying on many families, both on the parents and the students as well. Our goal is to be able to reopen school in a safe and responsible manner, greatly minimizing the health risks associated with COVID-19.

Below please find a two-pronged approach to reopening TASA for the 2020-2021 school year. The reopening plan delineated below is reflective of the “Reopening Survey” sent to both parents and staff in May 2020 and the vote of the Board of Trustees on July 21, 2020.

PLAN A

Parents can choose between two options of how their child/ren will attend school.

OPTION 1: IN-PERSON SCHOOL

Due to the small number of students and staff in our school, projected at below 50 persons, small classes, we will be able to implement proper social distancing and health protocols fairly easily and minimize risks. COVID-19 Protocols will be strictly enforced. Please note, that we may have to shut down IN-PERSON SCHOOL due to an outbreak and/or government shut down, at any given time.

OPTION 2: REMOTE LEARNING PLAN

For those families that are not comfortable sending their child to school in person, we will provide a modified version of the RLP (Remote Learning Plan). This will include providing students with all school work and books and making sure that all our classes are streamed live on Zoom, allowing students to partake in the classroom experience online. We have implemented some changes to our R.L.P since last school year. They include.

- Robust program and more detailed student schedules
- Zoom Based, Face to Face learning (not incorporating pre recorded lessons)
- Grading system will revert to the standard grading system (not pass/fail grade)
- Middle School will no longer be on the B.L.L. (Blended Learning Lab) Odyssey Program for General Studies. Instead, General Studies will be departmentalized, with teachers instructing live lessons.
- Monthly Parental virtual conferences to ensure maximum success.

PLAN B

In the event that our school is closed by government mandate, and/or it is deemed unsafe, due to widespread outbreak, we will continue with the R.L.P. (remote learning program) that we have used since March 15th, 2020.

2. COVID-19 PROTOCOLS IMPLEMENTED UPON OPENING

A. ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL

- Our campus will be CLOSED to parents and visitors. No parents or visitors in the building at all, no exceptions. Parents must wear a mask or the door will not be opened by staff.
- Parents bringing lunch or to pick up their child will not be allowed in the building. A staff member will greet them at the door in response to the door buzzer.
- Parents or Designated Person will fill out a daily questionnaire with regard to general well being, exposure and covid-19 related questions.
- Every staff member and student will agree to a daily Temperature test. Any result of a fever above 99.5 will be denied entry to the school building.
- Every staff member and student must daily wear a mask properly inside the building.
- Masks are allowed to be removed outside the building during P.E. and recess.
- All Staff and Students are to Disinfect hands prior to entry.
- All desks, door handles, bathrooms and computers will be disinfected daily.

B. PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS

In order to adhere to CDC guidelines, we have altered the program as follows:

- Each class/grade level will operate as an independent and autonomous unit. This will be in effect in order to protect each unit from cross contamination with other groups.
- There will be no cross-unit activities or interaction without social distancing procedures.
- Students will have a designated chair and desk and will be socially distanced from each other.
- There will be no off-campus field trips or outings.

- When seated for lunch or other activities, students will sit at least six feet apart.
- School programs have always been built around developmentally appropriate practice. Social distancing is not a developmentally appropriate expectation for children. Therefore, we expect that your child may, at times, be at a distance of less than 6 feet from another child. Our staff will remind students frequently to socially distance, but recognize that it will take time and reinforcement to get young students to distance from each other. Our program will not encourage activities that place students in less than 6 feet of one another, or that occur in confined indoor spaces for prolonged periods to minimize aerosol transmission.
- Hand washing will take place often and under the supervision of our staff. The following times are mandatory for handwashing:
 - Immediately upon entering the building in the morning.
 - Between class periods.
 - Before and after snack and lunch.
 - Before and after going outdoors to play.
 - After using the bathroom.
 - Before leaving school at the end of the day.
- In addition, we will have hand sanitizer for students and staff to sanitize in between hand washings.
- Daily Tefillah (prayer) will be held in a social distancing manne.
- Kabbalat Shabbat and Assemblies will be held in the same manner.
- Recess/P.E. and Art will be each class separately unit on its own.
- Student lunches will be eaten at individual student desks in the classroom
Students will Bench in their classroom at their seat.
- The School Office will have a plastic/acrylic barrier and will be reorganized to facilitate spacing.
 - Students wanting office help will need to wait behind the barrier.
 - Administrative Office will be reconfigured and barriers will be used.
 - Only one staff member at a time will be allowed in the office for work activity (i.e. to make copies or coffee)
 - Office space will not be a “hang-out” or a place for personal items.
 - Staff or parental meetings will take place either via zoom or via social distancing.

C. SICKNESS & EXPOSURE

In the event that a child or staff member is showing symptoms or has a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the school setting or when later at home we will immediately initiate our CDP (Communicable Disease Plan).

1. If a fever, illness or any symptom presents itself while in our school, we will isolate the child with the symptoms, contact their parents for the child to be picked up immediately. Parents must monitor their child at home for any further developing symptoms.
2. We will notify local health officials, staff, and families immediately of a possible case while maintaining confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
3. We will close off areas used by anyone suspected of illness and will not use them again until cleaning and disinfection has occurred. We will ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep disinfectant products away from children.
4. We will inform those exposed to a person with COVID-19 to stay home and self-monitor for symptoms and if symptoms develop, follow CDC guidance.
5. In the event a person diagnosed with COVID-19 is determined to have been in the building and poses a risk to the community, we will determine whether closing for a short time (1-2 days) for cleaning and disinfection is necessary.
6. We have designated a staff member to be responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns.
7. We will monitor State and local health department notices daily about transmission in the area and adjust operations accordingly.

D. PROTOCOL TO RETURN TO TASA

Scenario 1 Standard Protocol

As of Friday, August 21st, 2020, the CDC has dropped the recommendation for quarantine and COVID-19 testing after travel within the US. Therefore, without a mandate in place, TASA will not require those that travel to quarantine or take a COVID-19 test upon returning from travel with the exceptions below:

If during travel a staff member or student is exposed to someone that has tested positive for COVID-19, and was not properly protected (i.e. wearing a mask or proper

face covering) we will require the individual to quarantine for 5 days after exposure. After which they will be required to obtain a COVID-19 test with a negative result. This requirement is necessary to lower the risk of false negatives and potentially exposing the TASA community.

For those going to large gatherings where social distancing may not be possible and they were unable to wear their mask the entire time, we may require them to take a rapid test with a negative result.

Please refer to the following link from the CDC regarding Travel during COVID-19:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html?_ga=2.133940109.260146334.1598272317-1339891309.1597421424

In case you may require testing for the virus, San Antonio Metro Health has some free testing locations, please refer to the following link:

<https://covid19.sanantonio.gov/What-YOU-Can-Do/Testing#TestingLocation>

Scenario 2 Potential Renewal of Hotspots

If any staff or student travels to a specific region in the country or elsewhere designated by the CDC or any other governmental agency as a COVID-19 hotspot, upon return, these individuals can anticipate the requirement of a potential quarantine and negative COVID-19 test result based upon Texas and Local Health Official policy then in place.

TUITION

While we understand the uncertainty and difficulty of the COVID-19 Era, for TASA, as a learning institution, we must plan for multiple scenarios of how our school will run. The operational budget and funds are primarily from tuition dollars paid by the families of our school. It is the school's expectation (as delineated in the Tuition and Enrollment Contract), that parents will honor and fulfil their tuition responsibilities whether we operate Plan A mode (in-person), or Plan B (RLP Remote Learning Program). Failure of payments to our school jeopardizes the ability for the school to remain open and pay our staff, especially in these challenging times.

AGREEMENT

In addition to signing the 2020-2021 TASA Parent-Student Handbook, school handbook, we now require parents and staff members to sign a waiver stating that they are attending school on their own free will and understand the potential risk involved with being there.

This must be signed and returned before your child can attend. Waiver will be made available during the registration process and will be sent to those who have already registered.

Please sign below that you acknowledge that you have read and agreed to this 2020-2021 TASA Parent-Student Handbook Addendum.

Name _____ **Date** _____

**Shmuel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio (TASA)
COVID-19 Waiver**

Acknowledgement and Assumption of Risk, Waiver of Rights, Release of Liability, Indemnification of All Claims, and Covenant Not to Sue

WARNING: THIS IS A LEGALLY BINDING AGREEMENT. PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT DOCUMENT CAREFULLY AND IN ITS ENTIRETY BEFORE SIGNING.

CORONAVIRUS / COVID-19 Warning & Disclaimer for the Shmuel Bass Torah Academy of San Antonio henceforth referred to as TASA.

The Novel Coronavirus, the virus that causes COVID-19, is an extremely contagious virus that can spread throughout groups of people, even without direct person-to-person contact. COVID-19 is a disease that can lead to severe illness, personal injury, permanent disability, and death. While those 65 and older, or those with underlying health conditions, are most vulnerable, anyone infected with COVID-19 may spread the disease to others, without even knowing they are sick themselves as they may have no symptoms or only mild symptoms. Health officials strongly recommend social distancing, wearing face masks, and frequent handwashing, among other things, as a means to prevent the spread of the virus and disease.

You are encouraged to review information available from county (<https://bexar.org/3234/COVID-19>), state (<https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>), and federal (<https://www.coronavirus.gov>) websites prior to signing this document to ensure that you fully understand the health risks posed to you, your child, and the rest of your family, by sending your child to TASA this school year.

TASA strongly recommends that all children and parents adhere to all safety and health guidelines for the prevention of COVID-19, including those issued by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Initials _____

Acknowledgment and Assumption of Risk

On behalf of myself and, in my legal capacity as parent or guardian, for my child, I do hereby acknowledge and agree that participation in TASA's programs or accessing TASA's facilities comes with inherent risks, including but in no way limited to: (1) slips, trips, and falls, (2) athletic injuries, and (4) illness, including exposure to and infection with viruses, bacteria, and contracting disease, such as COVID-19. I further acknowledge that the preceding list is not inclusive of all possible risks and in no way limits the operation of this agreement.

On behalf of myself and, in my legal capacity as parent or guardian, for my child, I knowingly and freely, assume all such risks both known and unknown, arising from or in any way relating to my child's participation including all illnesses, injuries, damages or death.

Waiver, Release, Indemnification and Covenant Not to Sue

In exchange for my child being allowed to use TASA's facilities/equipment and/or participate in TASA's programs, I make the above acknowledgement and assumption of risk and do hereby grant the within waiver of all claims and right to sue TASA and give a full and total release of liability to TASA as stated herein, all of which shall be fully enforceable and binding against myself, my child, our heirs, successors, assignees, representatives, executors, administrators, and any other person or entity acting now or in the future in a similar capacity.

I do hereby waive all right to sue, and covenant not to sue, and give an unconditional and full release of liability to, and pledge to indemnify and hold harmless, TASA , its officers, directors, employees, volunteers, agents, representatives and insurers from any causes of action, claims, or demands of any nature whatsoever including, but in no way limited to, claims of negligence in all its forms, that I or my child may have, now or in the future, on account of personal injury, property damage, death or accident of any kind, arising out of or in any way related to the use of TASA's facilities/equipment or participation in TASA's programs whether that participation is supervised or unsupervised, however the injury or damage occurs, including any loss that may relate in any way to the Novel Coronavirus and COVID-19.

It is my intention for this agreement to be interpreted in such a manner that the acknowledgement and assumption of risk, waiver of right to sue and covenant not to sue, indemnification and pledge to hold harmless, and release of liability are to be construed as broadly as the law allows. This agreement is to be considered entered into in Texas, regardless of where executed, and is to be interpreted and construed under the laws of the State of Texas.

I hereby certify on behalf of myself and my child that I understand the nature and extent of the risks described above, that I have had a full and complete opportunity to have all of my questions answered, and that I am signing this agreement freely and voluntarily. I understand

that I and my child will be solely responsible for any loss or damage, including personal injury, property damage, or death that may occur.

I further certify that my child is in good health and does not have any conditions or impairments which would preclude his/her safe participation in TASA, has not had a positive COVID-19 test or any symptoms commonly associated with COVID-19 such as fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea. Should my child, or anyone else my child has contact with, test positive for COVID-19 or display any of these symptoms, I agree to immediately notify TASA.

I further certify that I have the legal capacity to execute this agreement as the parent/guardian.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Legal Signature: _____