



THE EAGLE

TIMES² Academy

New administration takes the helm as students head back to class in August

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The TIMES² Board of Directors has announced the selection of a new administrative team to lead the K-12 STEM-based school. Jennifer Aguiar, an 18-year veteran of T² as both an elementary school English teacher and ESL/Reading Specialist/504 Coordinator, was appointed Principal of the Middle-High School. Christianne Fisher, a former school administrator and a recent member of the TIMES² high school science department was appointed to the position of Principal for the Elementary School. Joining Aguiar and

Fisher are Andrew Overton as Manager for Student Affairs and Anthony Alejandro, a graduate of TIMES² as the Assistant Manager of Student Affairs and Athletic Manager K-12.

The team will face many challenges in the coming year as the school enters its second year of the charter renewal process as well as navigating the 'new normal' in response to COVID-19 and its impact on the delivery of instruction to its 727 students.

Since their appointments, the team has begun work on the

state-mandated reopening plans for the 2020-21 school year, organizing the rollout of new K-12 curriculum programs and supports for ELA, math, and science, as well as collaborating with faculty on the reconstitution of both a program of studies and student handbook.

Families can look forward to receiving orientation packets and invitations to grade-level virtual meetings to meet the team, and to review expectations and policies that will guide the coming year. Notices will be posted on the school website and through parent outreach calls and emails.



Further information will be available our entire T² community through our website, family emails and scheduled virtual town halls so be sure your email and telephone numbers remain updated.

TIMES² creates multiple plans for return

The Rhode Island Department of Education mandated that all of its 39 school districts and 18 charter schools design multiple reopening plans for the 2020-2021 school year. These plans include scenarios for 100% in-person instruction delivery, a partial or hybrid structure that would require students to alternate between in-person and distance learning, a more modified or limited in-person structure, and

finally, the more familiar distance learning scenario.

Each plan must follow the strict health and safety guidelines provided by the CDC to safeguard against the possibility of exposure to COVID-19, while at the same time ensure the delivery of high-quality instruction to each and every student in Rhode Island.

Things contained in each plan include the creation of stable class 'pods', cleaning and

disinfection schedules for common areas, such as bathrooms and recess areas, in-class breakfast and lunch food service, up and down staircases, limiting the access to school buses to only include grades K-6, with grades 7-8 being provided with RIPTIX for families who cannot provide transportation as well as the number of riders on buses to 22 students per bus. Each plan must also provide for a level of distance learning to occur in real-

time in the event that students have been excused and in-person instruction is mandated by the Department of Education.

Parents and students were recently surveyed regarding their perceptions about returning to school in-person and the ability to provide their own transportation.

Responses are still being collected via the school website so let your voice be heard.

What does each plan look like for students?

Learning Scenario →	#1 Full In-Person Learning	#2 Partial In-Person Learning	#3 Limited In-Person Learning
Grades K - 8	All students can attend every day in stable groups of 30	Same for full in-person learning	All students can attend every day in smaller stable groups of 15
Grades 9 -12	All students can attend every day	Students attend on an A/B schedule, alternating between in-person and distance learning days	Same as partial in-person learning

NOTE – We await final guidance from the RI Department of Health regarding which scenario will be implemented for the start of school on August 31st.

Changes to Pass Practice	Grades K-6	Grades 7 -8	Grades 9 - 12
Transportation – reduce ridership on school busses and response to bus shortages	Transportation availability is severely limited; families are asked to commit to providing child with transportation to and from school.	Students will be provided with access to RIPTIX in the event families are not able to transport.	No change as transportation has not been provided in past.
Health and Safety Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students riding the school bus or RIPTA are subject to temperature checks at the school door upon entry. Students transported by personal vehicle will be expected to follow self-check protocols for illness prior to leaving home. Creation of a separate sick room within the nurse's office suite if an individual should become ill during the school day, to inhibit transmission of any suspected illness or to support immune-compromised individuals. 		
Health and Safety Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School building access will be available no earlier than 7:25am and timely end-of-day dismissal for students not participating in an established afterschool program, to ensure limited groupings of students. Lockers WILL NOT be utilized for storage of student materials. Establishment of 'up' and 'down' staircases to inhibit face-to-face exposure. Establishment of stable class 'pods' for grades K-8, with all instructional delivery including specials, within a single classroom; grades 9-12 will remain in grade pods as much as possible, with exceptions being made for differences in student's individual education plan. Breakfast and lunch food service in classrooms instead of the cafeteria. Assigned breakfast, lunch, recess, and bathroom break times throughout the day to allow for disinfection of common areas to occur in between groups. Social distancing measures of 3-6 feet between individuals within the classroom based upon stability of classroom pod. Mask use is required during hallway transition between classroom to next destination. Mask use is strongly encouraged within classrooms, unless there is a reason, which may include medical, asthma, anxiety, and oral communication issues. Hand sanitizer and handwashing stations for health hygiene. Water bubblers WILL NOT be utilized as a water source; students are to bring a refillable water bottle clearly labeled with their name and grade for use in school. 		