

August 26 Head of Small Schools Check In Notes

- Mixed emotions on the call; sense of some relief from those who have opened with each day getting a bit easier to high anxiety for those still anticipating the first day
- Lots of good advice from those now in buildings with students: your planning will have made a difference; there is trust and more with each day; students are able to abide by masks and social distancing; outdoors makes a difference
- Some schools have set up rooms to have space for the maximum number per grade should all students want to return
- Some schools are keeping an early dismissal (even noon) on Fridays to have time with faculty
- Discussion on if a sneeze guard is in place how close can two people be?
- Teachers being equipped with earbuds and portable/clip on microphones
- Some school have installed outside amplifying systems
- Try not to become complacent, even in early days; stick to your rules and procedures or the plans you have in place will not work; do not change even if there are no incidents on campus
- One school is doing Whisper Singing for davening!
- Opportunity to teach the words of each prayer and to focus on the reading
- Lots of ideas on how to do netilat yadayim; one school has a ziplock bag with a piece of bread ready on each child's desk; teacher pours the water; sanitize before washing
- No movement when eating at desks
- Everything takes a bit longer than it used to, and every day those things go a bit faster!
- Keep using this community for support