



May 11,2020

Hello PIC Families,

As we have moved into May and week #9 of our closure, I hope this message continues to find you well. I write today to share a recap of the Zoom Town Hall meeting we held for families on Wednesday, May 6. I am grateful for the many people who were able to join.

At the Town Hall, I shared a recap of our then 7 ½ weeks of our closure. The highlights included work being done to ensure PIC's financial sustainability (successes with our PIC COVID-19 Relief Fund and securing the federal Payroll Protection Program Loan,) and the need to continue to pursue financial support for the future of PIC.

I spoke of the behind-the-scenes work on the part of the admin team that keeps PIC operations functioning, even when our doors are closed. This work assures that we will be ready to open when allowed to do so. I spoke of the work our program team continues to do with our teachers to learn new technology and refine their connections with children and families. And I spoke of how very much we all miss seeing the children and their families.

[PIC's Board president Maya Nayak](#) spoke about the level of the support [the Board of Directors](#) has given throughout our closure and the decision making process. Maya spoke of the need [for ongoing support of our COVID-19 Relief Fund](#) in whatever way that families are able. Gifts of any size will make a difference. Visit:<https://parentinfantcenter.networkforgood.com/projects/71079>

I then turned to the topic of reopening PIC and shared what we know (and much of what we still do not know) and answered a series of questions posed by families in advance of the meeting. Here are the highlights.

- **While at the time of the Town Hall we did not have any additional information about reopening, on Friday the Governor and Mayor extended the Red Phase (which PIC falls into) until June 4.** We do not know if it will be extended again after that date.
- **A Reopening Task Force made up of several board members, two physicians (one who is an infectious disease specialist), two administrators, and one teacher representing each age**

group has been formed. We are meeting weekly to review the latest CDC guidelines and their impact on PIC's operations. Based on the most up-to-date information, the Task Force will make recommendations to PIC's Board about a timeline for reopening, as well as create handbooks for staff and families to guide us. The Task Force will also provide guidance on the possibility of future closings and reopenings related to COVID-19.

- **Once a decision is made to reopen, we do know that teachers and children will not come back at the same time.** Teachers will return first for training in new health and safety protocols and to prepare classrooms for the return of children.
- **We know that when PIC reopens, things will look quite different.** While no concrete decisions have yet been made, families may see new protocols such as staggered drop-off and pick-up times that take place outside the building, reduced hours of operation, reduced class sizes, daily temperature checks, and teachers and children over the age of two wearing masks.
- **We are exploring budget scenarios to create a "space holder" policy** for families who choose to keep their child home for the summer and plan to return in September. We will share this information as soon as we can.
- **We are prepared for children who are exhibiting regressive behaviors upon return, which is developmentally appropriate given the circumstances.** Our teachers are skilled in dealing with these challenges and will support the children in the ways they need.
- **We do not yet know about the timing of move-ups. Much will depend upon the reopening timeline and our enrollment numbers at that time.** Our primary focus is on the emotional needs of each child.
- **A decision has not yet been made about PIC Summer Camp. IF we open, the program will likely look different than we had originally planned.** Families may see changes such as a delayed start date, a shorter day, and no swimming or trips via buses.
- **FAMILY INPUT IS VITAL TO MAKING REOPENING-RELATED DECISIONS.** All families are asked to take a Reopening Survey. The information is not binding in any way, and will greatly help us plan for the summer and beyond.

We ask that all families complete the Survey by Monday, May 18 (the sooner, the better).
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/9NBQQ8R>

- **We plan to host another Town Hall once we have a full reopening plan in place.**

It is more and more difficult to ask for your continued patience, but I again need to do so.

Please reach out if you have additional questions or needs that we may be able to help with.

Stay safe and be well!

Deb Green
Executive Director