



December 21, 2020

Hello PIC Families,

Thank you to everyone who was able to join in our Zoom Family Meeting last Thursday night.

After the meeting, I received emails with follow-up questions around the gatherings and travel policies currently in place. I write this hoping to clear up any confusion.

Due to the spike in COVID cases in Philadelphia, we are reviewing policies from the Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and PA's Department of Health, and are following the strictest guidelines of the three organizations. We need all PIC families and staff members to very strictly adhere to these policies. The most important pieces are as follows:

- **Anyone who travels outside of the state of PA must quarantine for 14 days upon return. (CDC)**
- **Indoor gatherings with anyone outside of your own household are currently prohibited by Philadelphia's "Safer at Home" order. (PDPH)**
- **Anyone who participates in an indoor gathering with anyone outside of your own household needs to quarantine for 14 days after the last gathering. (PDPH)**

Important clarifications:

- A quarantine by the PIC family/staff member before travel or before an indoor gathering, or a quarantine by the persons being visited, do NOT override the need to quarantine after the travel or indoor gathering, and thus the 14-day quarantine must still be followed before returning to PIC.
- The only exceptions to the 14-day quarantine period if traveling outside of PA include:
 - Traveling for work-related purposes.
 - Traveling for medical reasons.
 - Traveling to comply with a court order (including child custody).
- Getting a negative test result for COVID-19 upon returning from any travel or indoor gatherings does NOT override the quarantine and thus, the 14-day quarantine must still be followed before returning to PIC.
- **Always follow COVID best practices, even when outdoors: Wear a mask, wash your hands and use hand sanitizer often, and stay 6 feet apart from people who are not in your immediate household.**

We will continue to ask the questions related to travel and indoor gatherings on our screening survey when we return in January.

Please contact me if you are planning to quarantine after travel or inside gatherings and will not be returning on January 4. If you have a specific situation and/or specific questions about your plans, please contact me.

Our COVID Task Force will be meeting again in January to look at where Philadelphia's current and projected COVID numbers are, and to determine if any PIC policy adjustments need to be made.

Your continued partnership is very important, now more than ever.

With best wishes for a time of some rest and peace and for a happy and healthy New Year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deb Green". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Deb Green
Executive Director