

July 24, 2020

Dear CRJ Students & Families:

We pray that you are healthy and safe during this unprecedented pandemic.

Our Cristo Rey team has been preparing for the upcoming school year. Next week, we will be releasing our *Reopening Plan & Protocols for the 2020-2021* school year. In the meantime, we would like to update you on a few important decisions so that you are kept informed and can plan accordingly.

CRJ will begin the school year in a 100% distance learning format. While it was our hope to bring students physically back to school in some capacity, it has become increasingly clear that this would not be in the best interest of our students, faculty, or staff at this time. **First and foremost, Cristo Rey takes this health crisis very seriously.** We know that many residents of Baltimore have been impacted and we commit to keeping the health and safety of our students and their families the primary focus through which decisions are made. Also, the health and welfare of our faculty and staff is of the utmost importance. When we consider bringing students and teachers physically back to school, we want to ensure that our teachers (and their families) also remain safe and healthy. We have a responsibility to ensure their continued good health during this health crisis. By doing so, CRJ will have a greater chance that teaching and learning will continue without interruptions.

Another important decision is that all students will start school one week later than originally planned. **The first day of school for students will be on Monday, August 31st.** We are confident that our distance learning format will be student-centered and high-quality so that we meet our mutual goal to prepare every student to be college ready. We will be providing every student with a chromebook computer. Our school is making greater investments in hotspots and educational platforms that will ease the delivery of instruction and communications between students and teachers. More specific information will be shared in our plan.

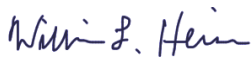
Importantly, it is our intention to transition to Phase 2 (Hybrid Learning Model) at some point in the future so that our students can receive in-person instruction even if in smaller classes. We will rely on scientific data, guidelines, and facility readiness to determine the timing. Importantly, CRJ has already begun to make modifications to our facility and adapt our operations. *Our team is currently making adjustments to classrooms to adhere to social distancing guidelines, as well as ongoing modifications to our bathrooms, water fountains, HVAC system, cleaning and disinfecting protocols, and other COVID-related recommendations such as providing every student, faculty and staff with the required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).* It is our promise to you that we will do our best to ensure that all members of our community are safe and healthy when we transition back to in-person classes.

Additionally, our Corporate Internship Program (CIP) will be delivered to our students but we must remain flexible. Many companies are still trying to figure out how to get their employees back to work on a regular basis. Our team is currently working with each employer to determine whether their student associates(s) will be working on-site, remotely, or formal training and development. Our Prep for Success Program for our new students was delayed and will be incorporated in the students' assigned CIP day. Stay tuned for more specific information from our CIP office in the coming weeks.

Lastly, we understand that this is a very challenging time for our students and families. None of us could have predicted that our world would be turned upside down by a pandemic. However, one of the things that we are most proud of is the strength of our CRJ community. **We are a community of faith that is strong, fortified by our Jesuit roots, and ready to deliver a great education to our students.** By choosing to attend Cristo Rey, we recognize that you are making an investment in your future. If you have not already done so, please return your registration form to the business office (businessoffice@crstoreybalt.org) to confirm your commitment to attend CRJ for the upcoming school year.

We look forward to being in touch next week with our *Reopening Plan & Protocols for the 2020-2021* school year. In the meantime, thank you for your trust, support, and commitment to CRJ. We miss you and love you. May we all be conduits of the healing love and power of God for one another these days.

Go Hornets,



Bill Heiser
President



Walt Reap
Principal



John Busse
Director of CIP