

May 17, 2020

Dear Bixby Summer Camp families:

Thank you all for your interest in a Bixby Summer experience, and for your feedback to our recent survey. The responses you provided have directly informed our plans for this summer. Using the information you shared as well as recent updates from our state and local public health partners, we have some important updates for you about our plans.

Please keep in mind that public health guidance is subject to change in response to changing conditions. Governor Polis is expected to issue additional guidance regarding summer programs on May 25. We will be sure to let you know if and how that guidance impacts our plans for summer.

Based on what we know now, there is some good news, some challenges and also some disappointments.

First, some good news - we are planning to offer summer camp:

- Camp starts June 1
- We will enroll children up to 12 years of age
- Camp hours are 8:30am-2:30pm for preschoolers, including those entering Kindergarten in the fall
- Camp hours are 9am-3pm for kids 6-12 years old
- Each group of campers will be led by trained teachers and staff, with a ratio of 10:2
- Camp activities will include lots of outside time playing on our expansive fields and on-site gardens

Challenges: Compliance with current best practices in public health will create some new challenges, including:

- Our enrollment capacity will be limited to 20 students (10 campers 6-12 years old) for the first two weeks of camp. We plan to increase capacity based on interest and staffing. We will use a waitlist to enroll campers as space becomes available
- There are a number of additional steps we will implement to limit the risk of spreading the virus, including daily temperature checks and health screenings, face masks for adults, staggered drop off and pick up times, social distancing between campers, and more. We are finalizing our policies and will share them with families as soon as we can - ideally by May 22
- In order to limit the number of social interactions for families, we are planning to:
 - Prioritize enrollment for siblings and current Bixby families
 - Require registration for a minimum of two consecutive weeks
- We do not yet have approval to use our vans or guidance regarding walking field trips but anticipate that these may be impacted

Disappointments: Doing our part to support the health of our community requires us to eliminate some parts of our program. We expect these changes may be disappointing for families.

- Based on direction from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment we are currently unable to offer a swim program
- For at least the first two weeks of camp, we will be unable to offer lunch or extended hours. We have made this decision in order to reduce the complexity of what we are taking on and thereby increase safety for all. We know that families highly value these parts of our program and we will revisit these decisions after the first two weeks. If we have the resources to do so with confidence, we will look to resume lunch and/or extended hours later in the summer.
- We can not offer the flexible 3-day and 4-day options to our early childhood campers. Families will be required to register for 5 days a week; of course you can always choose to keep your child home but we won't be able to offer a discounted fee for attending less than 5 days per week. We will honor 3 and 4 day enrollments for the weeks of June 1 and June 8 that are already registered.
- We will not offer any camp June 29-July 12. Many of our staff are 12 month employees who have worked demanding hours to provide a high quality school program this spring and a safe and caring program for the summer. With planning for a changed school environment in the fall already underway, taking some time away from work is necessary for the mental, physical and emotional health of our team. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause families and hope that with advance notice families will have ample time to make alternative plans.

We realize that this situation will create challenges for families. Please know we are doing all we can to plan for a safe, fun and meaningful summer experience for your children. The Bixby Summer Camp webpage will be updated on Monday with this information and hopefully will answer questions you may have. You can also email us at Summer@BixbySchool.org if you have questions or concerns. Supporting you and understanding your perspectives is a primary consideration.

Thank you so much for your continued patience and partnership as we work through this together.

Be well. Stay safe.

Bixby Summer Camp