



June 29, 2020

Dear Parents,

I have been praying for you and your family this summer that God would keep you safe and healthy. A lot has changed during the past month. In the midst of this pandemic, we continue to see encouraging progress. Virginia has now moved into Phase 2 and we are expecting to move into Phase 3 very soon. With each phase we receive additional clarification regarding the opening of schools.

Once we move into Phase 3 we will submit our plan to return to campus for onsite instruction to the Virginia Council for Private Education. VCPE is tasked with reviewing plans from all Virginia private schools. In preparation for this important step, we are grateful for the work of our Reopening Task Force led by Dale Pinkley. Our school nurses have also worked tirelessly to prepare for the return of our students. We are blessed to have these health care professionals on the ICS front line, planning for ways to support the health and wellbeing of our students and employees. This provision is just one example of how God has already gone before us to provide exceptional guidance for ICS so we can welcome our students back on campus.

We know that parents are eager for information on what to expect as we return to school. So, we have prepared a document that provides an overview of the measures that will be in place as we look ahead to on campus instruction. This document is attached in the email today and it will also be posted on a special COVID-19 information page on our website. You can access this page by clicking this [link](#) or by going to the ICS homepage and clicking on the special alert banner at the top of the page. Once there, you will find answers to frequently asked questions, resources, and links to all of our communication and videos since the start of the pandemic. Additional detailed information will be provided in the weeks to come. Please continue to pray for our leadership team as they prepare for the arrival of students in just a few weeks.

We are also excited to announce that we received the occupancy permit for our high school building. This is exciting news! This expansion project is essential in providing the needed instructional space for our growing high school. When school opens in the fall we will welcome more than sixty 9th-11th grade students, more than doubling our high school enrollment in just one year. With all this growth it is critical that we start the next phase of construction to buildout the two remaining floors. Without this we will quickly outgrow our existing space. Unexpected growth is a wonderful problem to have and it confirms for us that a rigorous college and career preparatory program with a solid biblical worldview is needed now more than ever. The past six months have revealed that the world desperately needs young men and women who can lead with wisdom and humility. Immanuel Christian High School is specifically designed to equip tomorrow's leaders so they can skillfully address the complex global problems facing our society.

Finally, my prayer for you and your family is that you will find time this summer to rest and recharge for the coming year. I came across this verse the other day and have been thinking about it ever since: *Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:13)*. I like those two phrases, "prepare your minds for action," and "fix your hope completely" – words worth pondering as we prepare for this new year.

May God continue to bless you and keep you safe until we are back together again.

In His perfect care,

Steve Danish  
Head of School