November 19, 2020
SPARK Program

Dear Families,

What a roller coaster we are all on! Or as we keep saying, it’s “clear as mud,” right? What I hope is crystal clear is that your child care partners are working with your academic partners to make sure your child care continues without a hiccup. We feel confident our partnerships will allow your families to continue utilizing the care you have become accustomed to.

Based on the School District’s board meeting on Tuesday night and the decision not to return to in-person learning until the county is 21 days in the Red Tier, we have made the decision to continue SPARK as is, for the time being. We will continue to monitor the tiers, and work with our City, County and school district partners, to be ready to provide what we are dubbing SPARK 2.0 when our children return to in-person learning.

What does this mean for you?

• Your spot in SPARK for January is yours, given you use the priority registration period, and enroll for the January Session.
• Enrollment for January will begin December 9-15, 2020.
• Session 6 will run January 4-29, 2021 (Closed January 18).
• As the schools have adjusted some of their schedules as new pods are returning in person, please expect for program times, and costs, to shift for January. More information will be shared in December.
• DISCLAIMER: Should we be in the red zone during that time, we will close program one week prior to the return of in-person learning so that program staff can move and sanitize program sites, reassign cohorts, and all the other work that will be necessary to shift from SPARK to SPARK 2.0. Registration for SPARK 2.0 will also begin once we hit the Red Tier, with priority given to our SPARK families. (More communication will follow.)

Travel Advisory and Safety

As you have seen, a travel advisory has been issued. We are asking our staff who are traveling to remember to be safe and self-quarantine if they feel they have been exposed to anyone who is sick. We ask the same of you. Please remember the other families, of staff and children, who share your child’s cohort. If you are
traveling outside of the State of California, a 14-day self-quarantine has been recommended by Public Health.

**Giving Thanks**

As always, we are thankful for you, our family partners, our school partners, our community partners working to provide child care coverage at other facilities, our amazing staff team, and more than anything, your children. They are wonderful beings, strong, smart, funny, beautiful and they are the reason we show up to work each day. As our family shares in our gratitude circle, I will always include your children, and the amazing team I work with, on my list of gratitude.

We wish you a safe, joyous and relaxing holiday and look forward to serving your family in December.

Stay well,

Meghan Burger

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