

May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Dear School Community,

The academic year of 2020 has proven to be not only challenging, but also significant. Our primary value - We Are One Family - has shown its immense relevance.

We started the year undertaking the first stage of a challenging structural renovation in our school. Despite its difficulties, we had remained determined to carry it out.

In the beginning of the year, COVID-19 seemed to be a distant problem. In March, the pandemic surprised everyone as we were forced to close the campus and adapt ourselves with the use of technological tools to provide support for our families. In parallel to the distance learning tools we have used, we are constantly researching and planning best practices and protocols to be applied when, finally, we may resume our on-campus activities.

During the past few days, we have continued the second stage of the renovations, geared, especially, towards meeting crucial health and safety requirements and protocols due to the pandemic we are facing.

We have already purchased personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, etc.), personal hygiene and cleaning supplies to sanitize our classrooms and spaces. We also purchased more thermometers for use at the school entrance. Other measures and investments are underway aiming towards the well-being and safety of students, teachers, and staff.

The past twelve months of the current economic scenario have been no less challenging. We have seen the dollar skyrocket beyond 25% against the Real and, more recently, the impacts on the economy, stemming from measures of social distancing. It is important to note that our school operates within a balanced budget, and the remaining revenue after costs reverts back to the institution in the form of maintenance and investments for quality teaching.

The Affinity Arts board has a long history of supporting the families in our community when faced with financial difficulties at some point. We recently conducted several negotiations as a means of providing financial support to families whose income has suffered a substantial impact due to current social distancing measures sanctioned by the authorities. In addition, the Board, in line with its guiding principles, has sought to preserve the jobs of all employees, according to its possibilities. We know that school contract terminations could lead to the dismissal of the most vulnerable sector of our school community.

On Friday, May 22, the governor of the Federal District decreed that schools remain closed indefinitely. Our legal counsel, aware of this scenario and the impacts on our community, has sought alternatives to help us to continue offering our services with the highest quality. This last item requires us to realize that online teaching and 'exaggerated' rescheduling of suspended days are less than adequate, especially in this important stage of Early Childhood Education. Therefore, rescheduled days in our next 2021 school term, would probably overburden our community as a whole.

Legislation determines that we must provide 800 hours in our academic year. However, the Department of Education of the Federal District, as a result of the situation caused by the pandemic, through Recommendation No. 1/2020 - CEDF, has allowed the flexibilization of hours in Early Childhood Education, in which the minimum attendance should be up to 60 % (sixty percent) of the mandatory annual workload. However, our proposal, attached, provides a longer workload, more consistent with the quality of our services.

The Affinity Arts School Board, therefore, proposes a collective concession of 100% discount for the June and July installments (TOTAL:R\$ 8,872.02) with a flexibilization of our attendance schedule/calendar.

The terms of the proposal are described in the contract amendment that is attached. We ask that you forward your acceptance of the amendment to this email by June 1, 2020.

We would like to inform you that if you had originally made a full annual payment, the proportional amount, considering the deduction of applied discounts, will be refunded – either as credit or in payment, by January 30,2021.

We have attached the provisional 2020 calendar. Please note that the dates are subject to change, depending on the social distancing measures required by local authorities.

Note: Contracts with extracurricular activity programs (Affinity Plus, Instrument classes, etc.) will be suspended until the return of the classroom activities.

We ask for the protection of our community, every day, in our thoughts and prayers and that this phase may soon end, as we miss our families and students.

Affinity Arts will honor its legacy and, despite all the difficulties and challenges that this moment presents, will be committed to making decisions to support, in a fair and equitable way, all the members and sectors of its school community.

Sincerely,

Affinity Arts  
School Administration