

## UPDATE ON OUR CENTER FROM Angelo Nikolov

April 17, 2020

Good Afternoon Toddler Town Family,

I just wanted to check in with you and see how everyone is doing. Hopefully, everyone has had the opportunity to check out the Google Classroom set up for your child's classroom. You should have received an invite already from your child's teacher. If you have not please email me your name, your child's name and their teacher and I will make sure that you receive an invite. You can email me at [angelo@toddlertownevanston.com](mailto:angelo@toddlertownevanston.com)

During this time of shelter in place we have been trying to stay connected with families through,

- Emails
- Phone calls
- Text Messages
- Facebook Daily posts from center staff along w/ZOOM meetings with parents
- Google Classrooms
- Facebook Live Updates/Toddler Town Website

We know and understand that parents are also having to work either from home or away from the house and that they cannot spend all day working with their children on everything that we are posting. With that being said, we just want you to know that we are doing our best to be there for your child and you in every way possible during this pandemic. Please do not feel burdened to post and respond to all of the work being posted.

On the other hand when you have time, please visit the Google classroom as many of you are even if it's for a Zoom Class meeting. Share your child's work with us so that we can post it. Many of the parents that have shared what their children are doing with us have expressed what a joy it brings to their child and them when they see us posting their child's work on Facebook. We just want to help put a priceless smile on your child's face.

We also want to share with you some information from Channel 7 News

<https://abc7chicago.com/health/pritzker-expected-to-close-illinois-schools-for-rest-of-academic-year-/6110838/>

<https://abc11.com/opening-america-again-guidelines-covid-new/6110222/>

Please remember that the information below is on the Federal Level – Once we hear from our Governor Pritzker we will post that information in a separate email.

I have also attached the Trump Federal Opening Guidelines Guide to this email.

What Americans should know about these federal guidelines:

These guidelines make clear that the return to normalcy may take a long time. Federal officials warning that some social distancing measures may need to remain in place through the end of the year to prevent a new outbreak.

Areas can only begin reopening businesses and schools once infections decline and strong testing begins.

There is no set timeline for moving through each of the three phases.

Trump emphasized that governors can "call your own shots." Both Republican and Democratic governors made clear they will move at their own pace.

At the earliest, the guidelines suggest, some parts of the country could see a somewhat normal life after a month of evaluating whether easing up on restrictions has led to a resurgence in coronavirus cases.

Two in three Americans expressed concerns that restrictions meant to slow the spread of the virus would be eased too quickly, according to a Pew Research Center survey.

#### BEFORE PHASE ONE

Here are some of the boxes that states must check before proceeding to a phased opening of their economies:

- A downward trajectory of documented COVID-19 cases within a 14-day period
- A robust testing program should be in place for at-risk health care workers
- A downward trajectory of influenza-like illnesses reported within a 14-day period
- Hospitals having enough protective gear for their workers and enough beds, ventilators and other needed supplies to treat all patients

Plans in place to protect essential workers and inform the public about social distancing and face coverings.

On an individual level:

Vulnerable individuals such as elderly people and those with underlying health conditions should continue to shelter in place.

Individuals who do go out should avoid socializing in groups of more than 10 people in places that don't provide appropriate physical distancing.

Nonessential travel is discouraged.

## PHASE TWO

More employers can reopen:

Schools and daycare can reopen.

Bars may open but should leave less room for people to stand around when possible.

Employers in phase two are asked to continue to encourage telework when possible and to close common areas where personnel are likely to congregate.

For individuals:

People are encouraged to maximize social distancing and limit gatherings to no more than 50 people unless precautionary measures are taken.

Travel could resume.

All vulnerable individuals should continue to shelter in place.

## PHASE THREE

Phase three envisions a return to normalcy for most Americans:

Vulnerable individuals can resume going out in public but should practice physical distancing.

Low-risk populations should consider minimizing time spent in crowded environments.

Visits to senior care centers and hospitals can also resume, but frequent hand washing is encouraged.

Employers can resume unrestricted staffing of worksites.

If you have any questions please feel free to email me at [angelo@toddlertownevanston.com](mailto:angelo@toddlertownevanston.com)

We will post updates on our website, facebook page, via email and through texts. Please stay safe and we hope to see you soon.

Angelo Nikolov