



## A Message from Head of School Ben Williams

Dear Cate Families,

Lots to report from the Mesa!

**Beginning this weekend, we'll enter Phase Two of our opening of school.** Students will be allowed to move about campus at their own discretion and to use the many school facilities available to them. While face covering and social distancing remain community expectations and there are still limits on the use of indoor spaces, we are moving in the right direction. Next week further changes await, including the beginning of on-site, in-person classes. This is the brass ring, folks, and it is tantalizingly close now.

Our students have been wonderfully patient and understanding in managing the challenges and limitations of quarantine. For their fortitude and good cheer, we are all immensely grateful. A note I sent them about the Phase Two changes included the following bullet points about immediate changes and further adjustments next week:

### **What changes now:**

- We can be out of our rooms whenever we choose during daytime hours.
- We can gather outdoors in small groups (10 or fewer) as long as physical distancing standards are maintained. It's time to put all of our new Adirondack chairs to work!
- We can go to the dining hall at our convenience.
- We can use open facilities (pool, gym, tennis courts, athletic fields, etc.) as long as we adhere to safe use standards.
- We can pick up packages at our Amazon Hub.

### **What's coming next week:**

- We will welcome Day Students back to campus on Tuesday.
- We will hold grade-level events on Wednesday and begin in-person classes on Thursday.
- We will be able to use the indoor seating in Booth Commons at 25% capacity.

- We will enable “contactless” food deliveries from Carpinteria markets and restaurants that will be collected at a pick-up table on Pizza Lawn.
- We will adjust our afternoon program to support students interested in sport-specific training.

### **COVID Testing Update**

This transition out of quarantine is made possible by **a second round of all negative tests** that was completed this week. We have also terminated our working relationship with Merso Labs and have signed on with Pacific Diagnostics Lab (PDL) here in Santa Barbara. PDL is well known to us and proved to be an expert partner as we were re-testing the inaccurate Merso results. We are quite pleased to be collaborating with them to ensure the health and safety of this community.

In the meantime, we are preparing for a weekend that is full of outdoor activities, a complete line-up of interesting programming on QTV, lots of discretionary time for kids to enjoy each other’s company, and (shockingly) the possibility of a little rain!

We’ll believe it when we see it ... but there is much to look forward to.

*Servons,*  
Ben



[www.cate.org](http://www.cate.org)

If you do not wish to receive these emails you may [unsubscribe here.](#)