



VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL

SCHOLARSHIP. COMMUNITY. GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY.

Fall Program 2020

Goals in our scenario planning:

1. Uncompromised Scholarship
2. Reignited and sustained Community
3. Minimized health risk to students and faculty





Five Days a Week

The Vermont Commons In Person-Online Fall 2020 Program

In-Person/Online Fall 2020 Program at Vermont Commons



- **Core Classes** *Synchronous online instruction of English, Social Studies, Math, Science, World Language, Arts/Electives*
- **Encounter Experiences** *Every Wednesday In-Person: 4-week Short Courses outside in small, socially distanced, cross-grade groups taking complete medical precautions*
- **Flex Time** *Friday afternoon, from lunch-on, for clubs, office hours, honors classes, extended art and music, events, and more*

Scholarship without Compromise



**Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays,
and the morning on Fridays:
online classes**

- meeting live with teachers every period, (asynchronous/outside time at teacher discretion and when appropriate for the content)
- unbroken and undiminished relationships, mentoring, oversight, feedback, and evaluation consistent with our in-person program
- balancing the need for real breaks between live video conferences and making each day efficient, in order to reduce overall screen time



Core Academic Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30	1 st period	Faculty mtg; students free	Encounter Experiences	1 st period	1 st period
9:25	Advisory	Individual meetings		Individual meetings	Advisory
10:00	Morning meeting				Morning meeting
	2 nd period	2 nd period		2 nd period	2 nd period
10:55					
11:15					
	3 rd period	3 rd period		3 rd period	3 rd period
12:10	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	Flex Time
12:45	4 th period	4 th period		4 th period	
1:40					
2:00	5 th period	5 th period		5 th period	
2:55	Office hours	Office hours		Office hours	
4:00					

Reignited and Sustained Community



Encounter Experiences

- Full-day, outdoor, in-person experiential education every Wednesday
- Small groups of 8 -12 multi-grade students and 2 Faculty members
- 4-week Short Courses in traditional outdoor education, interdisciplinary academics, field study, service work
- Selected by student sign-ups based on their interests
- The year will start with two Wednesdays of traditional start-of-year Core-Group gatherings
- After the first short course, Advisory Groups will have two Wednesdays
- For Students and Faculty unable to join in-person Encounter Experiences due to health issues or concerns, online, alternative, and/or independent Short Courses will be available.

A Taste of Encounter Experiences

- Road and Mountain Biking
- Day Hikes
- Restorative justice and Conflict Resolution
- Music composition and performance
- Page to the Stage Drama workshop
- Sculpture, sketching, and painting
- Creative Writing workshop
- Filmmaking and Photography
- Environmental Field Study
- Social Justice, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Civic engagement at the local level



Minimized Health Risk to Students and Faculty



- Challenges of health management in the building
 - Restrictions on Student and Faculty
 - Mask Requirement, Restriction to Desk/Teaching Corridor, limit on numbers of students in a room, no intermingling, no group meetings, etc.
 - Air quality and delivery
 - Uncertain data
 - Emerging understanding of
 - Risk to adults
 - Transmission by Middle and High School students
 - Long-term impact of infection on children
 - Treatment protocols
 - Vaccine
- Ongoing re-evaluation health situation and our ability to return to building (48 - 72 hours lead time)

Thanks!

Any questions?

You will receive an invite to schedule a short meeting with Administrators tomorrow, and feel free to reach out directly to us with your questions.

