



HERITAGE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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November 20, 2020

We are thankful that you partnered with HCA to re-open in-person classes back in August. We had been and will continue to take every step ensuring the safety of the HCA student body and teachers. HCA faculty and staff have done a great job sanitizing their rooms between every class while continuing to provide an excellent education for your student. We are committed to remain open with in-person classes.

I am sure you are aware of the governor's latest executive order to close schools. I was very disappointed and upset with the news. Everyone has worked so hard to remain open, and it is working. However, the executive order includes all schools, public and private and does not take into consideration the ones that are doing great.

Prior to the Board of Directors' meeting last evening, my administrative team and I spent the day consulting with legal counsel, other private Christian leaders, and Kentucky's Deputy Attorney General, Barry Dunn in hopes of finding a solution around this order. The board decided to follow the Kentucky Attorney General's lead and other private Christian schools in Kentucky and voted to do the following:

- HCA Preschool will return to school on Nov. 30 and will remain open.
- Grades K-12 will return in-person on Dec. 7 and will remain open until Dec. 18 (noon dismissal). If changes need to be made, they will be communicated as soon as possible.
- During the two week Thanksgiving break, there will be no virtual learning or NTI. (except for dual credit college classes)
- No semester exams will be given this semester.

We are currently exploring possible legal options for challenging the executive order on religious liberty grounds. This path would seek a legal remedy to the governor's decision as unconstitutional and avoid the negative impacts of choosing not to comply with a legal mandate. If successful, a legal challenge could potentially allow Christian schools to remain open for in-person learning and prevent future shutdowns. While our resources for legal action are definitely limited, there may be non-profit or free legal options available.

If you are uncomfortable for your student to return on Dec. 7, your child will be excused and you can pick up their assignments in the front office.

Please continue to pray for HCA, Christian County, Kentucky and our country. Pray that we will be able to return to in-person school and focus on your child's education. Pray that we all stay healthy!

Go Warriors!

Linda Garris Headmaster