February 5, 2021

Dear Parents:

As you know, our mission at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts is to provide intense, integrated training to build a bridge to the post-secondary and professional world. To help us achieve this mission, we urge our families to take full advantage of the learning platform that best supports their student’s unique educational needs within the safety parameters and suggestions provided by the Centers for Disease Control.

As we start our second semester, we wish to remind you of our existing opportunities for on-campus, in-person tutoring and intervention for academic classes. If your child needs in-person academic support, we encourage them to take advantage of our in-person tutoring program on Wednesdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. We also encourage students coming to campus for Arts Block to continue accessing the in-person tutoring support our academic teachers provide during each conservatory’s designated study hall.

In line with these on-campus offerings, we are adjusting our Arts Block schedule starting XXX date here XXX to provide additional on-campus academic support for all students during their designated arts-instruction days. As shown in the attached adjusted schedule, BTWHSPVA students will now begin each of their two Arts Block mornings with an hour of face-to-face tutoring or homework time with the teachers who can best support their success. For students struggling in a particular subject, this schedule creates two hours of additional, face-to-face support per week; for students performing well academically, this allows them to interact with their academic teachers to receive supplemental instruction or subject-related enrichment.

Finally we continue to explore our options for safely bringing students to campus more days for in-person instruction. As you know, the Academic Conservatory is the space where our students interact with all other Conservatories and, therefore, decisions around bringing students together in this space must be made carefully as our No. 1 priority is the health and safety of our students, teachers and community.

As we weigh various options for further opening our campus, we need to better understand how many students would be interested in returning to campus for in-person academic instruction and intervention -- and for how many days. To assist in our decision-making process, please complete our interest survey using this link ______________ by Friday, February 12.

As always, our faculty and staff are committed to educating and keeping your student safe. We look forward to receiving your input to our ongoing decision-making process, and to working with your child in the months ahead.

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