

## Dear Randolph families,

As Head of School and Chair of the Board of Trustees, we would like to share an update with you about our continuing actions and decisions in response to the ongoing spread of the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

After very careful consideration and in support of the health and wellness of all in our community, we will suspend in-person classes and scheduled events and begin our transition to online learning, effective immediately, for three weeks.

This week our faculty members have been working in classes and practicing with students to help build understanding, awareness and familiarity with the tools and techniques that will facilitate virtual teaching and learning. Advisors and counselors are also working to consider how best to support students.

All campus facilities, including outdoor spaces, will be closed during this period. We aim to conduct as much school business as possible online and will limit access to campus to essential personnel.

Although we have no knowledge of any confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our school community, we feel this pivot to remote learning is the most prudent decision for us to make. We are driven by our goals to safeguard the health of students, faculty and staff and to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in an effort to protect our communities.

## What does this mean?

- All school-related events, including arts and athletic events scheduled this
  evening and over the weekend, are suspended through April 6.
- On Monday, March 16, our faculty will finalize their digital or online instructional plans and student expectations.
- On Tuesday, March 17, each division office will communicate with families these plans and expectations.
- We will conduct our first virtual school-day on Wednesday, March 18.

Prior to that time, we recommend you continue to think about spaces and needs for online learning in your home. No matter one's age, building new routines and sticking to them will help you and your child feel a sense of routine and normalcy during this unprecedented time.

Modifications to the upcoming school calendar

- Virtual school days will be conducted Wednesday, March 18 through Thursday, March 26.
- We will not hold classes on March 27 through the conclusion of Spring Break.
- At this time, we plan to return to on-campus classes on Monday, April 6. We
  will continue to monitor the evolving situation and will communicate any
  changes as they are known.

## Travel/Extracurricular Cancellations

Decisions about student trips and activities after April 6 will be heavily influenced by <u>CDC travel guidance</u>. Due to the rapidly evolving nature of this situation, we will be monitoring and evaluating each event on a frequent basis. We will notify families of any changes or future cancellations as soon as decisions are made.

## Our Partnership

We hope you understand the importance of doing our part to protect our community in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19. While it is difficult to have children out of school with less structured days, we urge you to model safe distancing practices during this period away from school and to support their continued growth by ensuring their home learning environment is conducive to this new model for teaching and learning.

Thank you for your ongoing patience and support as we work together for the health, safety and well-being of everyone in our community. We will continue to evaluate our situation over the next three weeks and provide updates through email as well as through our <u>resource webpage</u>.

Sincerely, Jerry B. Beckman Interim Head of School

Marshall Schreeder, Jr. '96 Chair, Board of Trustees