

March 13, 2020

Dear Summerfield Community,

Conditions are changing rapidly around the world as well as in our county and state and we are working hard to assess the information and balance the varying needs of our community.

Many in our community, including primary caregivers of the children and some of our teachers and staff are in the high risk category. They are being cautioned to avoid large groups and practice self-distancing. Naturally our concern level is rising for them. In light of this, we have made the decision to close school Monday, March 16th with a plan to reopen on Monday, April 6th. We will continue to monitor County Health advisories, and we will extend the return date, if deemed necessary by the department. We will update you in as timely a manner as possible on any changes.

In the past we have faced the challenges closing school unexpectedly can cause our families and our faculty and staff, and we have not made this decision without deep consideration. We have determined it is best for our community and for the health of those at risk among us and with whom we come in contact to make this decision.

For this decision to be as effective as possible, we ask you to be responsible in following self-distancing practices as well as good health etiquette.

The faculty has already started planning for what is known as “distance learning” beginning next week in ways that are age appropriate, and your children’s teachers will soon be sharing information on activities, projects and assignments that can be done productively at home.

It is our goal that the work at home will be a real part of the Summerfield education we value and the children as well as the parents and teachers will continue their connection to our beloved community as a result. We are all learners together working to help young people to face life’s challenges and to become the people who will lead the next generation through theirs.

Ignacio Garat, Jason Gross and Rachel McGarve
The Governance Council