

April 28, 2020

Dear Shalom School Families,

Of all the many current challenges we are facing, I think the ongoing uncertainty about the future is one of the worst. I know that you, like me and all of our teachers, are anxious to know what the coming weeks hold and when we will be able to return to our campus. I am dismayed that I don't yet have a clear answer to that question. Here is what I do know and want to share with you now:

- We will not be able to return to campus before May 18th, and we may very well have to wait even longer than that.
- Given the fact that we are still getting new information from the Governor's office and
 public health officials as the situation changes, we want to keep every option available to
 us open, which is why we are not ready to say that we will be closed through the end of
 the school year.
- We are committed to opening as soon as we possibly can, as long as we can keep all children and staff safe and be in compliance with local directives and our licensing regulations.
- We are looking at all options and working on multiple contingency plans, and as soon as we have new information to share, we will update you.

Several families have requested documentation of our closure in order to submit for leave, and we are happy to provide that information on official letterhead should you need it. Please email shalomschool.org if you require such a letter.

I also want to share an **update with you regarding grading in our elementary program**. Our teachers are continuing to provide rigorous and engaging instruction and are assessing students' learning on an ongoing basis. We will be able to cover the curriculum, and our students will be ready for next school year. We will not, however, be assigning number or letter grades for the third trimester, and instead, each student will receive a report card with detailed narrative comments. As always, our teachers are also available to talk with you about your child and his or her progress at any time.

I want to once again acknowledge the incredible work of our teachers and the ongoing patience, support, and flexibility of our families. We remain so grateful for your partnership. I look forward to continue to sharing information and plans with you as they become available and encourage you to be in touch with me at any time at nleaderman@shalomschool.org.

L'shalom,

Nancy



