

Monday, March 16, 2020

Dear High Point Families,

I hope you found time this weekend to engage in self-care and meaningful time with your family. We live in unprecedented times. In the midst of this reality, I take great comfort knowing that we have each other to provide much needed support and compassion. Going forward, I will be sending you regular communications so we can all remain connected and informed. In this spirit, I want to update you on the upcoming remote learning program and other important information.

What's Next?

- **Monday, March 16th and Tuesday, March 17th:** Faculty and administrators are finalizing remote learning plans and resources. Our faculty will be in touch with you to furnish more details pertinent to the remote learning procedures and protocols at your children's particular grade levels.
- **Wednesday, March 18 through Tuesday, March 31st:** Students will engage in remote learning systems provided by their teachers.
- **Wednesday, April 1st through April 12th: Spring Break**
March 16, 2020 through April 12, 2020: Students will NOT be on campus.

Our sincere desire is to resume in-person academic and enrichment when students return from Spring Break on Monday, April 13th. As you are aware, however, all public and all independent schools are currently closed in the Pasadena area and neighboring communities. We will continue to evaluate the evolving circumstances and make a final decision as to whether it is prudent, safe, and feasible for High Point to resume in-person academic and enrichment after Spring Break. We will keep you updated on this important matter.

I wish to express my deep appreciation and gratitude to:

High Point's amazing faculty and staff for their dedication and flexibility in developing a remote learning program and providing much-needed compassion and emotional support for students during this time of transition.

High Point's administrative team and Board of Trustees for their inspirational and collaborative leadership in helping me navigate High Point's response planning during these unparalleled and challenging times.

I am honored to work in partnership with such a dedicated, thoughtful, and compassionate team of professionals.

While students are off campus, High Point's janitorial service will initiate a thorough and deep cleaning of ALL classrooms, enrichment rooms, restrooms, and offices on our campus and in rooms High Point students and staff regularly use at the church across the street from our campus. In addition to the deep cleaning, the custodial crew will channel their efforts and concentrate on disinfecting surfaces that hands touch often, such as, but, not limited to door

handles, cabinet knobs, restroom surfaces including toilet handles, urinal flushers, water faucets, dispensers, desktops, counter tops, etc.

We invite you to visit High Point's website at www.highpointacademy.org to access up-to-date information about HPA's closure in response to the larger evolving coronavirus situation. A special thank you to Deb Snyder for making this important information available to our community.

One other piece of information I wish to share is from a physician who provided guidance to all of the heads of school in the California Association of Independent Schools. Notably, the physician indicated that recommendations are trending toward keeping students at home as much as possible and If students are in group situations, to limit them to no more than 15 people, all of whom are symptom free and typically spend time with one another. This is a much smaller number than the broader guidance we see in the general public, and it was not stated as a formal, concrete recommendation. Nevertheless, I want to share the direction and tone of expert thinking to help you as you make plans for your children and families in the coming weeks.

Please be sure to watch your inbox for further communications from your children's teachers and me. This remains a very fluid situation, and so it is best to remain flexible with our plans so we can adapt as needed. In the meantime, if you have questions about technology at your home, you can contact Jason Moore at jmoore@highpointacademy.org

The close-knit High Point community remains strong and vibrant. Unprecedented times like these strengthen our collective unity and unwavering compassion and support for one another. I extend my prayers and most positive reflections to you and your families. All of you have demonstrated courage, compassion, and a deep sense of caring for your families, for one another, and for High Point. Words cannot express how grateful I am for all of you. I remain optimistic that our High Point community will weather through this experience and come out stronger as a whole.

Warmest regards,

Gary Stern
Head of School