



Dear Randolph Families,

We are writing to follow up on last week's communication about coronavirus (COVID-19). As we focus on precautionary and preparedness measures at school, we continue to monitor timely resources to inform how we can best uphold our commitment to the health and well-being of our community. While it is unsettling for parents, students and employees to read daily about COVID-19, the CDC has advised communities, businesses, schools and other organizations to be prepared for the possibility of needing to manage the impacts of the virus. Our school is committed to being as prepared as possible, and thus provides the following updates on our decisions and guidance to our community.

### **Interim Week Travel**

We have gathered data from health agencies and our peer schools across the country regarding their current stance on student travel to help us arrive at a sound decision that focuses on student safety and the well-being of all members of our school community. We met this morning with the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees, along with medical professionals from both of our local hospitals, to present our findings and benefit from their wisdom and expertise. **We concluded that we will be canceling all student travel, career shadowing, and community service during Interim week (March 23-27). We currently plan for school to remain open the week of March 23, operating on a normal class schedule.** We know that there will be many varying opinions on this decision and hope that you understand that the safety of our students and the school community are always our top priority. We are in communication with third party vendors responsible for managing student travel to determine what options are available as a result of these cancellations. We will be in touch with families in the coming weeks as we learn more.

### **Planning for Possible School Disruption**

We continue to prepare to deliver instruction, guidance and materials, where appropriate, through our learning management systems, MyRandolph and Canvas, should this become necessary for any period of time. If your student does not have access to high-speed internet, please discuss with your child's division head.

### **Spring Break Travel**

With Spring Break quickly approaching, we are particularly mindful that many of our families have plans to travel. We encourage families to take the usual health precautions. As you evaluate your own travel, we encourage you to keep abreast of changes in restrictions for COVID-19 by using the [U.S. State Department](#)

website to review your destination(s) before your departure, during your trip and upon your return. We understand this information changes regularly and as such, encourage you to continue to monitor this website. Many countries have instituted restrictions and quarantines for travel into and out of the country that may directly affect you. Please be mindful that travel restrictions can change with little or no advanced notice, and airlines may change or cancel flights in response.

### **Avoiding Bias**

Finally, we are very aware that anxiety can be heightened during such situations. Our School is following the current guidance provided by the [CDC](#), [U.S. State Department](#) and the [World Health Organization](#) (WHO). We want to separate fact from rumor by relying on these health care experts. Our mission and community values require that all of us affirm the dignity of each individual.

As we move forward, we will continue to assess the best options for a meaningful finish to the 2019-2020 school year. There are additional student trips and group events planned later in the Spring, and we will provide weekly updates as additional information becomes available. As we partner with you and our greater community to meet known and unknown challenges, we are committed to keeping the channels of communication open and to doing all we reasonably can to ensure the health, safety and well-being of our community.

Sincerely,

Jerry B. Beckman  
Interim Head of School