



COVENANT
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Friday, April 24, 2020

Greetings Covenant Parents,

As our Spring Break week draws to a close and we prepare to return to the work of learning, I know there are many thoughts and questions about what the future holds for us - as families, as a school, and as a society. What will this “new normal” look like over the coming weeks and months?

A few weeks ago, as the Board of Directors and I began to recognize the very real potential for continued uncertainty extending into the coming months, I assembled a small team of administrators to focus on the 2020-2021 school year. We have been tirelessly researching and scenario planning what the 2020-2021 school year may bring, watching closely the educational systems of countries who are ahead of us, and staying informed of all state and federal recommendations and planning. The good news at this time is, according to the guidelines recently released by the Federal Government, we are hopeful that Massachusetts will meet the criteria to reopen schools by September. Praise God! We are overjoyed at the prospect of being back together again and honestly, in tears of joy thinking about that day. While that will be a celebration indeed, we are also keenly aware that we also need to be ready for whatever comes next. While we may be allowed to return to school physically, that return will not likely look entirely the same as what we once knew.

While we pray for a return to normalcy, we recognize the potential does exist for this virus to resurge at some point next fall or winter, thus requiring additional periods of remote learning and social distancing throughout next school year. To that end, we are hard at work analyzing evolving best practices at all grade levels, investigating alternative online platforms and technology solutions, while also thoughtfully digesting all of the helpful feedback gained from you - our families. We’re using all we have learned and will continue to learn to design an even more streamlined and efficient remote learning experience, should we need to employ it in the future.

We’re also beginning to work on plans for how we may need to change our physical school space to maintain compliance with social distancing protocols. Rearranging classrooms and common areas, reconsidering drop off and pick up routines, as well as rethinking other general operations will all be necessary to support being physically back at school, while also creating a safe, healthy and protected environment for students, teachers and staff. This will not be any easy task, but it is one we are determined to do exceptionally well.

Finally, we recognize and deeply respect the financial commitment you make when you enroll your children at Covenant. It is not a commitment we take lightly, and your partnership is cherished. As part of our planning process for the 2020-2021 school year, we are considering different ways we can account for potential periods of remote learning in our tuition pricing. We are committed to taking into account this new reality that may include periods of at-home schooling. As you can imagine, modeling financials, while considering the many unknowns, is a complicated task, but one we are hard at work on. We will be providing you with additional details of this plan in the weeks ahead.

Though we remain separated physically, I find great hope knowing that we remain connected as a body of believers, through our loving Savior, Jesus Christ. We will no doubt continue to face challenges in the weeks ahead, but I am choosing to “take heart” as written in the book of John... “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” - John 16:33

Take heart, dear friends. We can do this together!

Andrea Bergstrom
Head of School