



March 13, 2020

Dear Nobles Parents, Guardians and Students,

As the coronavirus pandemic continues to quickly evolve, and as a follow up to my Wednesday email, below are some important updates. I want to emphasize that at no time have we had any Nobles employee or student indicate they have any symptoms of Covid-19.

This is a challenging time for all of us as we are witnessing rapid rates of response to this pandemic. I want to slow us down and take a measured look at what we can understand currently and what we can, to the extent possible, anticipate. My strong focus will remain on protecting the safety and wellness of our community, providing for the best possible continuation of our program and ensuring the ongoing strength of connection of our great Nobles community.

Athletics

Following a discussion with all heads of school from peer Independent School League (ISL) schools, we have agreed that we will not hold any practices or games while school is not in session. For Nobles, this currently means we will not have any athletic activities through spring break. This also applies to captains' practices or any informal team gatherings. The spirit of the decision is to keep large groups from gathering to help prevent the spread of the virus.

Campus Events

We have decided to cancel all on-campus admission events in April, replacing them with virtual events and creative ways to engage our admitted students in learning more about Nobles. We may be asking some of you to be helpful ambassadors in this endeavor, and I would be grateful for your help and support in enabling these families to learn more about Nobles.

All campus rentals through spring break have also been canceled. Over spring break, we will evaluate our policy regarding access to campus for non-Nobles groups in April.

Future Planning

Over the next two weeks, we will continue to closely monitor the evolution of this pandemic, and the guidelines and recommendations emerging from local, state, and federal officials.

While it remains our plan to return to school after spring break on March 30, we will be considering the possibility of additional time away should it be prudent in slowing the spread of Covid-19. We will make that decision over the next two weeks.

Should we be unable to return to campus immediately after spring break, we will implement our distance-learning response plan. There is a team in place at Nobles that has been working very hard on this plan over the last several weeks to ensure the best possible continuity of our program should we need to close for any period of time. Should we decide a closure of any length is necessary, we will communicate all the details you will need to know to learn remotely.

Community

This is, of course, a stressful time for many of us as we manage the uncertainty and anxiety of the coronavirus pandemic and its effects on our daily lives. I hope, amidst this challenge, you are all able to take some needed time in the coming weeks to take care of yourselves. I hope you find meaningful time together as a family, and that you can take a deep breath and rejuvenate over break.

This fall, our assembly tent proved to be an impactful reminder for me that we do not need a building to come together as a Nobles community. In fact, our community strengthened as we recognized what really mattered about our time together. As we enter into a new and very challenging period of time, and potentially have a period of time when our community will not be physically together, I want us to remember what really makes our community strong and so extraordinary. It will be the strength of our community that shines through over these next several weeks, as we lift one another up and navigate the weeks ahead together.

I am deeply thankful for your understanding and support, and I wish you a restful and wonderful spring break.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Hall". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name.

Catherine J. Hall, Ph. D.
Head of School