



March 16, 2020

Dear Stanley Community,

Thank you to our amazing teachers and students for smoothly making the transitions on Friday for our period of school closure planned for March 16 – April 7. We know this is a challenging time, and we appreciate everyone's support. Over the weekend, you should have received emails from each division head with information about how our educational program will be delivered during our closure. These thoughtful plans reflect a deep commitment to British Primary philosophy and emphasize the importance of the relationship between student and teacher. Please be in touch with your student's teachers and division heads if you have any questions as we go.

We want to share important information with the Stanley community related to direction released over the weekend by the Centers for Disease Control, the Colorado Department of Public Health, and the Denver Department of Public Health and Environment, specifically the practice of "social distancing".

Social Distancing – Why it is Important

Although kids are thought to be at lower risk for severe disease from COVID-19, they can easily spread it to others. The people at the highest risk are those over the age of 60 and people who have chronic medical conditions, like heart, lung, or kidney disease, or diabetes.

Our school is closed not just to keep our students safe, but to do our part to keep our entire community safe by removing as many disease pathways as possible. For this reason, it is very important that Stanley families follow public health guidance related to social distancing, including limiting playdates, social outings, and other gatherings with family and friends. We realize this is challenging and may begin to feel isolating, but we encourage everyone to follow the directions provided by the [Colorado Department of Public Health for Parents and Guardians: What to do when school is closed](#).

Social distancing is required to slow the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus. Social distancing methods are ways to increase physical distance between people in schools and workplaces, at community events, and at other places people gather. Examples include:

- Not shaking hands. Instead, bump fists or elbows.
- Increasing distance between people to six feet to help reduce spread.
- Reducing the number of large group gatherings or activities.
- Keeping children and teens from gathering in other public places if school is closed.
- Staying home.

The document linked above also includes helpful recommendations for indoor gatherings and sharing childcare. This document also includes recommendations for outdoor gatherings and specific recommendations for teenagers.

Keeping Your Family and our Community Healthy

It is more important than ever to use good hygiene practices, and to follow the advice of public health authorities and limit social contact as much as possible.

If you or anyone in your immediate family becomes positive for COVID-19, we ask that you share this information as soon as possible to me or to Melissa Knott, School Health Coordinator at melissa.knott@stanleybps.org or 720-839-7113. This information is treated with the utmost confidentiality and will be managed in collaboration with our public health agencies.

Additional Reminders

- The business office, admissions office, and office of community engagement are open and operating remotely and we will all be responding regularly via email.
- School is closed until April 7. Please do not come to school or try to access any of our facilities or grounds. If there is an extenuating circumstance, please contact me directly.
- Unless there is urgent information to share, we will send community-wide updates on Mondays and Fridays, and we will continue to send the weekly Bulldog on Thursdays.

We encourage everyone to be diligent in limiting social contact to ensure we are keeping ourselves and the broader community safe in this difficult time. We also hope you may find silver linings in new ways of spending time together, enjoying a slower pace, and rediscovering the joys of things like board games, gardening, and cooking, or whatever is sustaining for you and your family. Often in times like these, finding ways to show and share gratitude or to help others in need can be a valuable way to lift spirits.

Warmly,
Tim