



April 6, 2020

Dear Families,

I hope you found some restoration, or at least diversion, during our spring break week. Tomorrow, we'll begin the next phase of our home learning program, which will run at least until April 30 in accordance with the statewide social distancing mandate. As I'm sure you are aware, Denver-area school districts have decided to extend their distance learning programs until the end of the school year. We will confirm our own plan by April 24 of whether to extend our home learning program. If we are able to return to campus, we will open up the Boonli ordering system at that time for the end of the year. If we are indeed unable to return to campus this spring, our planning will include creative thinking about how we will accomplish end of year activities, particularly continuations and graduation.

This is not the end of the year we could have imagined or wanted. As we enter our spring term, I wanted to share some thoughts about the value of the Stanley community, and specifically how we intend to do all we can to ensure our community remains intact into the foreseeable future.

I came to Stanley 25 years ago, before I was married, before I could have imagined having children of my own. I had no idea at the time that Stanley would become the defining aspect of my adult life. I will never be able to fully express my gratitude for what this school has done for my own children and for my whole family. And it's not because I'm the head of school and got some special treatment. Stanley has seen the Barriers through some pretty wonderful times and frankly some pretty challenging ones. Always with grace, compassion, and an uncommon capacity for care.

I share that with you because the current crisis we're all trying to navigate has left us all feeling unmoored, uncertain, and frightened about what the future may hold. I want you to know that the Stanley community will be there for you - now, this month, next month, this summer, next year, and beyond. I'm sure many may be feeling anxious about continuing to be able to make the investment in a Stanley education. I wish I could offer some reassurance about what all this disruption means for the future our economy. I can't do that, but I can tell you that Stanley is committed to doing all we are able to keep our community intact – teachers, families, and children.

As the spring goes on, your particular financial situation may become clearer as it relates to your capacity to make tuition payments for the 2020-21 school year, and as it does, or even if you just want to proactively discuss scenarios with us, please reach out. Our administrative team and our finance committee are building a Stanley BPS Community Support Fund to provide tuition assistance to help families get through financial challenges, as long as this lasts. While we can't guarantee we will be able to meet every need fully, it is our commitment to do all we can to enable families to continue to provide a Stanley education for their children. We will share more details about this fund in our letter at the end of the week.

You may be in a position to help another Stanley family who will need assistance to keep their kids here. We will not hold our spring fundraisers as we'd hoped, and we're deferring plans for the second phase of our playground work, for which raised funds were intended. As our Stanley Community Support Fund takes shape, I will share more about opportunities for direct giving this spring towards our effort to keep the Stanley community intact. Know that everything you contribute will go directly to that cause.

I will also share more details throughout the spring regarding our general financial planning for next year. We are incredibly fortunate to be in a strong position to weather this storm. We have no debt, we have strong reserves, and we have a high market demand for admission – the foundation of our financial sustainability.

The Stanley community supports one another like no other I know, and we'll see one another through this. I expect we'll come out stronger on the other side.

Best,
Tim