



March 23, 2020

Dear Stanley Community,

We hope you are enjoying the return of spring-ish weather as much as I, and it sure is nice to be outdoors as a brief antidote and respite from our house-based lives these days. Today we are using our letter to update you on our thinking about school events scheduled this spring, knowing that of course our plans are continually being revised and altered as the COVID-19 situation progresses.

As I write, teachers are busy sharing ideas and preparing to implement Phase 2 of our home learning program, which will begin after spring break. I know we all will be in need of some diversion next week, as teachers and parents, and I would advise that we all give one another the space to have that opportunity for restoration ahead of our April program.

April Event Cancellations and Postponements

The cancellation or postponement of school events, many of them cherished school and community traditions, is an unfortunate result of the reality we all face. It's perhaps easier from an adult viewpoint to put these disappointments into perspective as we become increasingly informed about the substantial impact the COVID-19 virus is having on people's lives around the world. It's also important that we acknowledge where our children's mindsets are through all this.

For example, a seventh-grade student reached out recently concerned about the upcoming middle school dance. It might be easy to dismiss such a concern in the midst of bigger issues, and I would remind all of us adults to continue to let our children express their frustration over the disruption in their lives, however they need to express it. We can just respond by saying simply, "You're right. It's really not fair, and I'm sorry you'll miss out on _____." We can also help our children by providing a ready ear to listen to any anxieties or concerns they have, and gently check in with them – "How are you doing?" – they may or may not want to talk at the moment, but knowing we're always available will be reassuring. [This article on handling kids disappointments when everything is canceled](#) may help you in your conversations.

For the month of April, the following events are being canceled or postponed:

Friday, April 10

- Stanley Fun Run Kick Off & Pep Rally – Canceled
- Faculty & Staff Meet & Greet Happy Hour with Sumant Bhat – Postponed
- Middle School Spring Dance – Postponed

Monday, April 13-Friday, April 17 – Earth Week – Canceled

Tuesday, April 14 – Teacher Book Discussion: Freeing Your Child From Anxiety – Canceled

Wednesday, April 15

- K-8 Group Picture Day – Postponed
- Screening of the movie "Angst" for middle school parents – Canceled

Thursday, April 16

- Happy Hour with current parents to welcome Sumant – Postponed

Tuesday, April 21

- Moab Trip (4/21-4/24) – Postponed
- 5th-Grade Testing (4/21-4/22) – Canceled
- SCIE Committee Meeting – Canceled

Wednesday, April 22

- 2nd Grade Show – Postponed

Friday, April 24

- Stanley Fun Run and Middle School Color Run – Postponed

Saturday, April 25

- Bulldog Fest 2020 – Canceled

Monday, April 27-Wednesday, April 29 – Calwood Trips for 3-4-5 Classrooms – Canceled

Tuesday, April 28 - Parent Book Discussion: Freeing your Child From Anxiety – Canceled

Wednesday, April 29 – 8th-Grade Cabaret – Pending/Postponed

Thursday, April 30 – Bricks and Brews – Canceled

Additional Communication this Week

- **Wednesday, March 25:** You will receive division-level letters describing plans for Phase Two of our home learning program.
- **Thursday, March 26:** You can expect another Weekly Bulldog with useful links and news from our school community.
- **Friday, March 27:** We will share an all-school communication to launch spring break.

Reminder – Resources Available

COVID-19 related school communications and links can be found on our dedicated [webpage at stanleybps.org/covid19](http://stanleybps.org/covid19). You can also find resources for services being offered to families in need, and you can find ways to help as well.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) is distributing a survey to our greater community to help them assess the effectiveness of strategies, and it's linked here for your convenience.

https://coloradopco.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0ks59jSHrX1WaLX

We hope your family is staying healthy and in good spirits through these unusual days.

Warmly,

Tim