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March 13, 2020

## Initial Letter | Covid-19 Response

Dear NHCA Families and Faculty,

This letter is to address what is already in the forefront of all our conversations today, the global spread of the Covid-19 virus. We want to take a minute to remind us all that our God is in control. All through time in history and through our lives, there have been moments when it looked like everything was completely out of control, but there has never been a moment that our God wasn't a loving, righteous God with a plan and purpose for your life, your child's life, and this world.

We want to remind you of God's word in Isaiah 57:19, "Peace, peace, to the far and to the near," says the Lord, "and I will heal him." God will keep you in perfect peace if you will keep your mind stayed on Him. So as we start to move forward and make changes to our lifestyles to address this national emergency, let's keep our minds fixed on God. Let's keep our confidence and hope alive that God is sovereign over this world.

Given that Governor Pritzker announced today that all Illinois schools will close beginning Tuesday, March 17, our School Board wisely decided to proactively close our academy to honor our government's authority and set a tone that we take our students' health seriously. As of today we plan to remain closed until Tuesday, April 14, which is the week following our regularly planned Spring Break. However, we may return to regular attendance earlier if we can confirm the academy's role and risk in the spread of Covid-19 is minimal.

We must remember it was not a matter of *if* we would need to take precautions individually and as an academy, but *when* and *how*. Thursday evening, March 12, our School Board reviewed the details of a policy for under what conditions we would enact a short-term and/or long-term Emergency Shutdown. Every family should familiarize themselves with these documents:

- Emergency Shutdown Policy - <https://tinyurl.com/ushqd57>
- FAQ Coronavirus Answers - <https://tinyurl.com/ujfywuv>

We will begin sharing even more details of our plans over the weekend.

This is a unique time for our world, our country, our cities, and our academy. We ask a few things of you at this time: Please join your family together to pray for the sick, the healthcare professionals, and those who will be on the frontlines of this pandemic. Be patient and flexible as we inevitably work out the kinks and knots that will arise. Be open to the Lord growing and maturing your family and our academy during this time, seeing this as the Lord's providence to mature us in accordance with his goodness and love for our students.

With Gratitude,

Greg Hoffman