

Dear Magnificat Families,

Over the last few weeks, Magnificat's Leadership Team and Board of Directors have been closely monitoring the quickly evolving news and information about the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in our region. We have spent many hours in thoughtful deliberation about how we can best continue to provide our students with enriching learning opportunities while also supporting the health and wellness of our entire community.

While Magnificat continues to have no suspected cases of students, faculty, staff, or administration with COVID-19, **we have decided to proactively cancel all on-campus classes and activities EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AFTER SCHOOL TODAY, MARCH 12 THROUGH MONDAY, APRIL 20.** Classes will resume on Tuesday, April 21 unless you are otherwise notified. All athletics and co-curricular activities will be suspended until further notice.

If at any time you or a member of your family has come in contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or who is in quarantine due to exposure, we respectfully request that you notify us immediately via [president@maghs.org](mailto:president@maghs.org).

Magnificat released students early on Wednesday, March 11, to allow time for faculty and staff to prepare for online learning. This preparation will continue tomorrow, Friday, March 13 and Monday, March 16. Tuesday, March 17 will continue to be the NIB Free Day. **Online classes will commence on Wednesday, March 18.** There will be no online classes on Friday, March 20; however, online office hours will be available from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. that day. Students will be provided with a schedule that details academic expectations.

The decision to cancel classes was made with the priority to protect the health and safety of our students and employees and by our communal responsibility to slow the spread of COVID-19 for the most vulnerable in the wider community. While we recognize this decision will cause disruptions in the day-to-day routine for our families, shifting to online learning is the most prudent decision we can make at this time.

Just as our faculty is working to prepare for online learning, we encourage families to prepare in the following ways:

- Ensure you have proper internet connectivity to support online learning. If you need to secure internet connectivity, please contact your daughter's counselor as soon as possible. Magnificat is committed to helping support families who do not have internet connection at home.
- Designate a specified place for your daughter to work inside of your home.
- Discuss with your daughter how she will limit distractions while attending to schoolwork.
- Help your daughter design an at-home schedule that allows for breaks to support healthy eating and exercise habits.

We want to emphasize that during this closure, we all have a responsibility to minimize the potential spread of COVID-19. As public health officials have emphasized, school closures will not be effective unless they are accompanied by social distancing strategies. We thank you for your support of these efforts.

Please continue to check <https://www.magnificaths.org/coronavirus> for future updates. We will continue to monitor the status of COVID-19 in our region during this time, and if necessary, we will extend our closure as long as needed to support the safety of our community. Please be assured that we will continue to communicate with you throughout the coming weeks.

Thank you for your patience, support, and empathy as we continue to navigate this challenging situation together. We continue to hold in prayer all those who are affected by the Coronavirus and all of the caregivers.

In the spirit of Mary's *Magnificat*,

Moira Clark '77