



June 15, 2020

Dear OC Community,

We hope this letter finds you and your loved ones feeling healthy and safe. We know that this is a challenging time on many levels with so much turmoil in the world, with both the on-going pandemic and the civil unrest.

The purpose of this letter is to update you in regards to our plan for on-going communication with the OC community over the course of the summer.

First, thank you for trusting OC to (continue to) be part of your youth's educational journey; it is families like yours who make up the heart and soul of OC. Thank you for sticking with us during these uncertain times!

Second, we want to assure you that we are working diligently to keep ourselves educated, informed and prepared to make intelligent, sound decisions in the coming months as the impacts of COVID-19 continue to change and unfold. As you can imagine, it is a fluid and moving target. We have and will continue to put much time and effort into staying up-to-date with the latest developments and research. We know we all share the same goals: a happy, healthy, safe, and engaging educational environment.

We want to outline what you can expect from OC moving forward. We will be sending out bi-weekly updates to all families who are enrolled for the 2020-21 program year. You can expect to receive correspondence from us around the following dates. We will also be posting these updates on our website.

- June 15th (this letter)
- June 29th
- July 13th
- July 27th
- August 10th
- August 24th

Of course, if there are any significant changes or timely developments that unfold which need to be communicated immediately, we will be sure to update you between these scheduled updates. Similarly, if at any point you have questions, please reach out to us!

As it stands, we continue to make plans for re-opening on-campus in the fall. We are hopeful that it will be safe for us to do so, *and* we are simultaneously making arrangements for virtual learning if we find ourselves in the position to need to implement that at any point during the 2020-21 program year. Significant time has been spent on exploring the creation of outdoor "classrooms" on the OC campus as we recognize that now, more than ever, learning and exploring in the outdoors is optimal. Fortunately, we are well positioned to do this, as ample outdoor time has always been a cornerstone of our programs.

Additionally, in recent weeks we have attended multiple virtual webinars focused on COVID-19 and the safe re-opening of private schools, conducted by ISM (Independent School Management). We have also talked with various doctors and health care providers, ranging from doctors working at local hospitals, to private practices. We have been cognizant about engaging doctors with differing backgrounds and focus-areas, so that we are doing our due diligence in regards to gathering information from all sides, opinions and perspectives. Of course, scientific, fact-based evidence will continue to guide our decision-making for the upcoming program year.

We look forward to staying in touch throughout the summer, and would welcome the opportunity to answer any questions you may have.

In partnership,

Julia Bergson-Shilcock, Rick Sleutaris, Mike Hilbert  
OC Co-directors