

Dear Linden Community,

As a follow-up from last night's all-school text alert, I am writing to update you on our preparation and response to this rapidly changing situation. To support broad efforts to limit community transmission of COVID-19, which the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared a global pandemic, LWS will begin Spring Break for students at the end of the day today, Thursday, March 12. **We are using our inclement weather days to extend Spring Break for students through March 27.** This decision is made in concert with the majority of Nashville's independent schools.

Thursday, March 12, our teachers will send students home with classroom supplies and materials in preparation for the likelihood of distance learning.

Friday, March 13, we will be closed to allow faculty and staff to consult with one another and colleagues at peer schools regarding best strategies for distance learning as a Waldorf school. Faculty planning will continue the week of March 23-27.

Upcoming events: All school events are suspended until further notice.

Regarding travel: We strongly encourage everyone to postpone all non-essential personal travel and **place the well-being of your family and the LWS greater community as your top priority.** The domestic presence of COVID-19 means exercising judgment even for travel within the [United States](#). If anyone in your household is traveling to a CDC-designated [Level 2](#) or [Level 3](#) country or believes they may have been exposed, follow CDC guidelines for a 14-day self-quarantine, even if asymptomatic. We urge you to monitor [CDC](#), [WHO](#), and [State Department](#) websites for up-to-date information.

Distance learning: You can assume that we will move to a distance learning platform following Spring Break. We will communicate the details of this plan over the break. We will make determinations week to week beyond that point based on conditions of the medical landscape. If you have pressing technology needs in your home that would hinder online access, please e-mail office@lindenwaldorf.org.

While there are no known or suspected cases in our school, we take these measures for the greater collective good of the community, helping to "flatten the curve" of newly diagnosed cases likely to burden the healthcare system. It is a meaningful lesson for our children to see us working together and making personal sacrifices to help protect our world. My hope for all of us is that, despite these extraordinary circumstances, we do not lose sight of the abundant love and joy that surrounds us daily. Let us continue to share these gifts with one another from afar.

In service and with gratitude,



Tricia Drake, Head of School

Linden Waldorf School

Serving Children in Early Childhood through Eighth Grade

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