

Dear Beechwood Families,

I want to express my deepest gratitude to all of you for the way you are adjusting to this great challenge we are facing as a community. As I see you on video and hear you on the phone, I sense that your resolve is strong and that you are remaining positive and hopeful. It is so important for your children to see you staying calm and following the rules that will help us slow the spread of Covid-19.

I also want to recognize our amazing staff. Given almost no time to prepare, they are finding ways to educate Beechwood students. Whether it be through Zoom, Google Classroom, homework packets, YouTube or Seesaw, the teachers have really impressed me with their efforts. We have had incredible leadership from our tech experts (Mrs. Tang, Mrs. Taylor and Ms. Bunyagidj) and amazing creativity from the Middle School, all the way down to the Kinders and KP. The teachers, like you, are doing this with new challenges in their homes. They, like you, are keeping their heads up and embracing this current reality.

I have been doing my best to stay busy as well. Most of my time has been spent delivering materials to families, supporting staff, working on admissions and moving forward with hiring a new 2nd Grade teacher and a new Principal. I am happy to say that my family is healthy and we are getting along well. Our dogs are very happy that there are people in the house all the time. We had a delightful, family-only birthday party for our daughter Charlotte, who turned 20 on March 20, 2020!

We want to make this situation as easy on you as we can. To that end:

1. If you are experiencing financial difficulty, please contact Melinda Christopherson at Melinda@cafamilyfoundation.org or call her at 650-269-8667. We are happy to offer tuition relief if needed.
2. All time that you are spending with your child helping them to move forward with their schoolwork counts as volunteer and/or education hours. This should allow everyone to finish their hours and re-enroll for next school year.
3. If ever you need to talk to me, I am available anytime. Call me at 650-740-4864. If you need translation for our conversation we can provide that for you as well.

There is no way to tell when we will be able to come back to campus and resume normal classes. We will be following the recommendations of the County Health Officials. My hope is that we will be able to be back in time to honor our amazing 8th grade class and to bring proper closure to the school year. In the meantime, remember: we are all in this together and we **will** get through it. Without a doubt, it will require a level of patience and flexibility that is unprecedented. Do the best you can and remember that your family's physical health and emotional well-being is more important than anything else.

I have great faith in all of you.

Mr. L