



March 12, 2020: Campus Closure to Begin Monday, 3/16

Dear CDS Community,

After extensive consultation with health experts in our community, the CDS Board of Trustees, school leaders throughout the Bay Area, and our leadership team, **CDS has made the difficult decision to temporarily transition to an online/home learning mode next week.** We did not make this decision lightly, as we weighed the common good along with the needs of individual members of our community. Although our physical location will change, we see this as an opportunity to realize our learning beliefs in a different context. The buildings will be closed, but we are excited to see the learning continue via SeeSaw, Zoom, Google Classroom, and ParentSquare. A detailed learning plan will be coming out in the next few days.

To allow for a smooth transition to online/home learning, classes will be held tomorrow (Friday), before our campus closes beginning Monday, March 16. Some of us will gather tomorrow morning for a smaller assembly than usual. We ask parents other than the Sequoia parents NOT to gather on the yard. You can still join in via the online stream!

As we mentioned earlier, our teachers will spend Monday and Tuesday of next week fine-tuning their plans for online/home learning, which will begin on Wednesday, March 18. We will send you detailed information about these plans early next week. **We anticipate home learning to last through spring break with school reopening on 4/20.** If conditions change, and we feel we are able to open earlier, we will give at least a one-week notice to families.

During this period of closure, we encourage you to stay home, avoiding playdates, camps, and social engagements as much as possible to really help [“flatten the curve”](#) of the virus spread.

For those for whom a school closure will prove to be a hardship, we would

like to work with you to find a creative plan. Please help us by completing this [brief survey](#) or email Shelly. Earlier this week, we also shared a survey about technology needs. Please [fill this out now](#), if you have not already.

We are grateful for your ongoing support and understanding. Again, we will communicate frequently with you in the coming weeks and update you as information becomes available. I have already started recording videos of me reading some of my favorite books, and I can't wait to share them with the students!

Warmly,
Shelly

Some resources you might find useful:

- [How to Talk to Your Kids about the Coronavirus](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [San Francisco Department of Public Health](#)
- [Feeling Anxiety About Coronavirus? A Psychologist Offers Tips to Stay Clearheaded](#)