Greetings Highlanders,

I hope this note finds you doing well, and ready to meet the challenges of the unprecedented, world-wide medical crisis we are all facing. These are extraordinary times, and all of us either are or will be seriously challenged in the coming weeks/months. In order to fulfill LHPS’ specific mission of providing your children with an exceptional learning experience, our dedicated faculty and staff members have been hard at work for the past two weeks preparing for tomorrow’s launch of the LHP Learning Continuity Plan. You should have received an important update from your Division Director earlier today with details regarding the launch of this incredible initiative.

Whereas content determination and presentation of educational material is what our faculty members do best, the transition from teaching in traditional classroom settings to a brand-new modality (remote learning) is not an insignificant change. That said, our faculty and staff have worked heroically to prepare and deliver an amazing new learning experience…one rooted in traditional LHPS standards of excellence only to be delivered, studied, and assessed via remote means. I could not be prouder of our entire team, and I look forward to highly successful implementation of this Learning Continuity Plan. To be sure, we have some individuals feeling a bit anxious as we start this adventure; however, we are ready and highly energized to continue the important work of educating your children. Although this approach to learning has become commonplace in recent years for many higher education programs, for LHPS (and most secondary schools), this will be the first time to remotely deliver at scale a comprehensive array of learning opportunities. It will not be a flawless experience at first, and yet, we will most certainly learn/improve along the way. We are determined to provide your children/our students with an outstanding experience, and we deeply appreciate your partnership as we begin this journey together.

Beyond our amazing faculty members, I want to personally acknowledge and thank several key professionals who made this difficult transition possible in relatively short order. First and foremost, the entire Technology Team and Technology Integration Specialists, led by our new Technology Director Jennifer Baselice have been exceptional in all respects. These professionals worked tirelessly in partnership with our Associate Directors of Curriculum to ensure a seamless and substantive learning continuum for our students. I want to again thank our remarkable faculty and implementation staff – their dedication, teamwork, research, creativity, and indomitable resolve during this entire evolution has been inspiring. **Bottom line: we are ready to begin this remote learning journey and successfully tackle any challenges encountered!**

In summary, I want to also thank the many parents who have reached out and offered incredible types and levels of support. I will respond to your kind notes when possible. I fully understand that you may have additional questions and concerns as we proceed. Rest assured, we will work through any remaining issues and find appropriate solutions as we move forward. In any case, our top priorities will always remain the health and safety of our students and employees, closely followed by our commitment...
to continue our educational mission. Once those priorities are addressed, we will turn our attention to the remaining myriad details or questions you may have.

Finally, an important note from our Health Services Coordinator, Marissa Johansen, RN. In order for our school closure and social distancing measures to be and remain effective, we must all do our part to limit social interactions during this time. As Highlanders, we should be leaders and role models in our community, and refrain from congregating in groups for study, play, or socializing. I ask that all Highlanders do the right thing, set the example, wash your hands one more time, and make us all proud!

Stay safe and healthy as we commence this new adventure!

God bless and best wishes

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