



3/12/2020

Dear Families,

These are unprecedented times for the Waldorf School of Orange County community as we navigate the COVID-19 outbreak. This situation is rapidly evolving and our community must come together to help one another, show care and compassion for those who are vulnerable, and to do our part in service of the greater good. We are writing today to request your support in these ongoing efforts.

With the recent declaration of a global pandemic, U.S. health authorities have asked us all to support the health of the wider community and mitigate the spread of this illness. Following the lead of independent schools across California, and in consultation with The Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA) and WSOC's internal Task Group – which is made up of two medical doctors, College of Teachers and Board of Trustees members - we have made the difficult decision to begin an organized, temporary campus closure, beginning on **Monday, March 16**.

While there have been no reported cases within the school, this is a preventative, proactive measure. During the next two weeks, we will implement creative strategies to bring the curriculum to your child. Monday and Tuesday, March 16 and 17, will serve as in-service days for our faculty and staff to prepare for *Learning Beyond the Classroom*, which will begin on Wednesday, March 18 and run through March 27. There will be no in-person activities during this time. We will be communicating with you as soon as we have the details in place.

The weeks of March 30 and April 6 will serve as our new Spring Break dates: no classes, practices or activities will be held. The current school resumption date will be **Monday, April 13**. However, this date is subject to change depending on the status of the outbreak and further health department recommendations.

We recognize that this change in Spring Break will affect all of us in a variety of ways. We appreciate your understanding and support as we endeavor to provide the curriculum and minimize the disruption to your student's education.

We understand that you may have many questions. We will update you regularly via email, and encourage you to check the Waldorf School Website. We acknowledge that there will be challenges during this time, and we are grateful for all of your support and understanding as we navigate this situation together.

Sincerely,

Douglas Garrett
School Administrator

Andrea Hubert
Chair, College of Teachers

Megan Brown
Chair, Board of Trustees