



Friday, March 27

Dear NGFS Community,

It has been a wonderful, challenging, tumultuous, rewarding week as students, teachers, and families adjust to completely new ways of teaching, learning, and living our lives as a community. We are learning new ways to support each other and discovering disappointments and joys.

The efforts being put forth by teachers, parents, staff, division heads, technology staff and administrators are nothing less than extraordinary. We are grateful for our educators' continued dedication to their students and for caregivers who have embraced the challenges of helping students learn at home. Their labors have been matched by the remarkable ways our students have responded. They have risen to these new challenges with tenacity, humor, and care.

These are uncertain and fearful times and the safety and well-being of students, families, and staff has been and must continue to be our top priority. As a community we are focused not only on academic engagement and on physical health and safety, but also on social-emotional and mental health needs, which could intensify during this time. As our worlds have become smaller, some families in our community who often depend on extended family or friends for help, may not have the support they need. If you are finding it difficult to help your student with remote learning, please do not hesitate to let me know or contact your student's division head.

We may be sheltering in place, but our community remains courageous, compassionate, resilient, and strong. We are kind but not perfect. We remain focused on inclusion, innovation, and our commitment to honoring and developing each person's gifts.

Please let us continue to hold all who have been affected by this crisis and those who care for them in the Light.

Kim