



March 6, 2020

Dear Families, Students, Faculty, and Staff,

As we prepare for spring break we wanted to let you know that the Administrative Team is continuing to monitor the COVID-19 situation.

We all know that COVID-19 is a shared global health crisis. At these times, it's important that we are mindful of not only our mission but the Quaker values on which this community was founded. In times such as these, we are reminded that the only appropriate response is love and compassion for those who are suffering and for those who are responding to this crisis through care, research, and planning. We are grateful for your help and your dedication to separating fact from rumor, relying on healthcare experts and officials, and extending kindness to those in our community who may feel marginalized.

It's important for families to stay up-to-date; information can be obtained from the [CDC](#). We have been in touch with the [Guilford County Health Department](#) and will continue to take direction from our officials throughout the break. Please check email periodically over spring break; as the situation evolves we may have to make decisions that will affect our community.

If you will be traveling, we urge you to stay alert to changes and developments that may affect your plans. Monitor travel advisories, including potential restrictions and be ready to change your plans if conditions change. The CDC has travel information [here](#).

The School is committed to taking reasonable measures to ensure the well-being of the whole community. We will follow CDC guidelines when determining if it is appropriate for an NGFS community member who may have been exposed to COVID-19, to return to campus. This applies to all members of the community: families, students, and staff.

For now, we ask that anyone who has traveled to an area which is recommended for a 14-day self-quarantine upon return by the CDC, or anyone who has had close contact with a COVID-19 patient or COVID-19 person under investigation (PUI), to refrain from returning to school after the break. Please reach out to your local health care provider and email me, ([kfreedman@ngfs.org](mailto:kfreedman@ngfs.org)) to discuss next steps. We will follow the CDC recommendations for returning to school, realizing that they are subject to change between now and when we return from the break.

As we move forward, we will consider the possibility that other precautions may be necessary for the health of our community as students and their families return to campus after spring break, and will be in touch with any updates.

NGFS is an interconnected and interdependent community; the choices each of us make and the risks we assume can have unintended yet potentially serious implications for others. It is vitally important that each of us reflects on our choices and their potential impact. Thank you for the important role you play in keeping our school community healthy. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns.

Kim Freedman  
Head of School