



Dear PCCS Staff and Community,

March 21, 2020

On Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> Governor Pritzker issued an executive order, requiring residents to “stay at home” effective Saturday March 21 at 5:00 PM through the end of April 7. As part of the Governor's order [Executive Order 2020-10](#), he announced that all schools will remain closed, with a new tentative reopening date of April 8<sup>th</sup>. We recognize that this development may raise questions about the impact on students, staff and families - as well as the school's vital role of providing students with the opportunity to learn and families to receive the resources that they may need while schools are closed.

As planned, every day through March 30 will count as an *Act of God Day*. Next week, The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) will issue guidance regarding March 31 and beyond. While some parameters may shift from what has applied during the Act of God Days, two pillars absolutely will remain the same:

1. All state funding will continue uninterrupted and
2. No schools will experience negative consequences to the extent possible.

I am incredibly impressed with how our Staff has risen to meet these challenges. Behind the scenes, they have been completely focused on getting the students acclimated for remote learning, building innovative lessons and keeping the students engaged and eager to learn. We anticipate the launch of our e-learning programs to begin after March 31.

While we remain in uncharted territory, I want to assure you that PCCS is committed to making sure you have everything you need to achieve two singular priorities for as long as it is necessary to suspend in-person instruction:

1. Ensure all students' nutritional needs are met.
2. Ensure all students have access to remote instruction through whatever means possible.

I ask that if you need any assistance to help achieve these priorities, to please contact the [Administration](#) for assistance.

While I know that there will be many questions over the next few weeks, I want to share that we are still working for you in gathering the information as it becomes available. There will be many details that will need to be sorted through and new processes put in place in order to adapt to our new reality.

As part of that new reality, today, I am announcing that **all class trips scheduled in April are canceled**. This includes the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Culminating Trip and any single day field trips currently scheduled for April. Parents, please look for additional communications after Spring Break for refund logistics and processes. As of now, no other decisions have been made beyond April for any other events as we await further information from the Governor's office.

For the many of you that have offered your support and encouraging kind words, we thank you. The strength of the PCCS community is never one I take for granted and one that never ceases to amaze me. I hope that you can use this time to explore the outdoors, observe the habitat migrations and enjoy the environment that surrounds you.

As you have seen, the situation is evolving rapidly and as the events unfold, we will continue to communicate in a timely and transparent manner.

Be safe - Be healthy – We will get through this together.

Geoff Deigan  
Executive Director