



March 27, 2020

Dear Japhet Families and Friends,

Every day brings new opportunities to learn and grow -- and during these challenging times it rings as true as ever. We're all being stretched, challenged, and dealing with issues we didn't foresee. Parents, thank you for being partners in education with your children. This partnership is particularly meaningful during this time. I've had the opportunity to "hangout" with students during their distance learning instruction times. Students at all levels are actively engaged in learning, and it's evident that teachers are planning and implementing stimulating lessons. Superior effort has been expressed during their continued dedication to bring the very best to their students. Bravo teachers, parents, and students!

You may have heard this morning that on WWJ or in *The Detroit News* that Governor Whitmer said it is "highly unlikely" that schools will reopen this year. Let me be clear, as stated by superintendents in the news article, schools and districts have not been given this news directly, nor has there been any updated information regarding our return to our school building. I hope to learn soon about the state's official plan for Michigan schools. For whatever length of time this year, our teachers are committed to providing quality instruction and meaningful classmate interaction through distance learning. As more news becomes available and decisions are made, I will communicate updates to you in a timely manner.

There are many ways to stay connected -- and right now it's from a distance. What remains constant is our promise to you "to nurture and prepare each child for life by integrating character education with a strong academic program." Our team of administrators is working at home and continue to be available for help. Please reach out as needed.

In the spirit of peace and good health,

Kerri G. Vizena
Head of School