



Charleston Day School

April 13, 2020

Dear Charleston Day Families,

I hope that everyone had a chance to enjoy the holiday weekend. In the Arnstein household, all of my siblings and I were able to participate in an Easter Sunday Zoom call and it was a comedy of errors as there is a wide range of technical capability among my siblings. It was an opportunity for both fellowship and a good laugh. I hope your families have had multiple opportunities for both.

This week at CDS marks the third full week of Remote Learning. The faculty and staff members have continued to work nonstop to create lessons and materials that will provide all of our students with strong learning opportunities and personal connections. On Friday, April 17 the school will host Field Day on a remote basis. Although all of us would prefer to be together for this event, Coach Wallace and her team have worked hard to create a thoughtful and fun event. Despite COVID-19, the friendly Field Day rivalry between the Red and Blue teams will continue on. More information regarding the specifics of the event will be provided in the coming days and in this week's *Communicator*, which will be sent via email later this afternoon. *The Communicator - CDS Connects* will also include a video from Allison Nesser, our school counselor, with tips on parenting during the pandemic.

As I have indicated previously, we continue to review upcoming events and are working tirelessly on revisions, remote delivery and other contingency plans. We recognize that the preferred plan would be to have all of the end of year events in person and as usual. We will know more in the coming weeks as decisions regarding continuing closings, social distancing and mandated gathering sizes will be reviewed by local, state and federal authorities. The uncertainty and adjustments surrounding events is likely challenging and disappointing for our students, particularly the Class of 2020. Please know that we are working to create opportunities to celebrate and recognize our graduates. More on that later.

I think about you and your families every day. I miss seeing you and hearing the sound of joyful engagement in the hallways of our school and chatting with parents as they drop by campus. I am proud that our community has discovered ways to connect and care for one another remotely. Yesterday, I was surprised by a plate of cookies that was left on my porch by a student. A small act performed with a large heart. And it made my day. (And it made our dog Charlotte's day as well, as she boldly helped herself to one!)

Wishing you and your families the best as we continue to be remote. Stay connected and take care of one another.

With gratitude,