



Dear St. Mary's Families:

You have probably heard that Governor Kate Brown has closed all Oregon schools through April 28th. This means that St. Mary's Academy will continue following our extended learning protocols through at least that date and will continue beyond April 28th, if necessary.

Our first two days of extended digital learning brought many successes. We began each day with prayer and our students followed the school-day schedule that provides structure and accountability. Throughout each day, students interacted with their teachers and with each other. While this might not be the typical St. Mary's experience, we believe Extended DLD provides a rich alternative. We are evaluating the classes and curriculum and we may continue to evolve our Extended DLD to make it the best program for our community.

Because the learning in the weeks ahead will be technology-rich, Spring Break will be an important time for students to refresh. I've heard some of my friends with younger children make schedules with different tech-free activities such as exercise, books, puzzles, and games. Our students may be a bit too mature for that type of parental intervention; however, they might still benefit from gentle reminders on how to manage their time.

I know that our seniors are particularly fragile right now as they see a horizon where there is a possibility that some of the beautiful St. Mary's milestones-the senior assembly, Metanoia retreat, Baccalaureate Mass, and graduation-could be postponed or cancelled. Please know that the administration will work to come up with ideas on how to celebrate the culmination of our four years

together should this be our reality. We will know more in the weeks ahead.

When I emailed the faculty and staff last evening, I encouraged them to stay positive and to keep the faith. I think this is an important reminder for us all right now, and we are here should you need to reach us. As always, we will continue to communicate with you along this journey.

Thank you and God bless you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole Foran". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Nicole Foran
Principal



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97201