



April 23, 2020

Dear Members of the Terra Verde Community,

I hope this note finds you and your family doing well and staying safe during Earth Week! As many of you now know, yesterday we learned that Oklahoma will begin to re-open businesses throughout the state in phases. Phase 1 which starts April 24th, 2020 provided specific employer guidance which included the following language. As we continue to follow the guidance of medical professionals and others, **TVDS campus will remain closed through May 15th, 2020.**

**Phase 1:**

**Specific Employer guidance:**

Schools and organized sporting events and camps that are currently closed should remain closed until further notice.

While not unexpected, I remain hopeful that we may be able to share a few days on campus together as Phase II goal tentatively scheduled to start on May 15th, 2020. The language reads as follows and as you can see, it does not specifically address schools. I've reached out to individuals to obtain additional information as to why the language from Phase 1 did not transition to Phase 2.

**Phase 2:**

**Specific Employer guidance:**

Organized sports activities can reopen and operate under proper social distancing and sanitation protocols.

Fast-forward to Phase III, which is scheduled to begin on June 1st, and the guidance reveals summer camps can open. As of now, we are planning to still offer summer camps at TVDS. We are also planning to offer our Oklahoma History course for HS credit. Details regarding these activities will be communicated as we receive updates.

**Phase 3:**

**Specific Employer guidance:**

Summer camps (church and school) can open.

In the coming week, we will communicate more about our plans to bring the year to a successful and positive close. I will send details to our Kinder, 5th, and 8th grade families regarding promotions and graduation plans as we focus on celebrating these students who contribute so much to our TVDS community. While we have all had to make dramatic lifestyle changes, I continue to be heartened by the response from you students, families, and faculty/staff.

## Important Dates

<u>Date of Event</u>	<u>Event Details</u>
April 20th-24th	Earth and TVDS Spirit Week
April 25th	Middle School Social Postponed
May 1st	FAFFF (postponed, a fun family scavenger hunt will be sent)
May 4th	Standardized Testing Week Postponed
May 12th	Volunteer Appreciate Day Postponed but alternative plan in place
May 20th, 21st	8th Grade Capstone Project Presentations
May 22nd	Final Day of School
May 25th	Progress Reports Available
June 25th	Prospective Parent Tour
July 17th	Prospective Parent Tour
July 18th	BBBB Event
August 8th	TVDS 8th Grade Graduation and MS Social
August 9th-11th	Faculty Retreat
August 20th	Back to School Night
August 24th	First Day of School 2020!

I want to reassure you that many people across our TVDS community and Norman community have been working hard to prepare for whatever lies ahead. Of course, our first priority is always supporting the continued growth and healthy development of every student in our charge. Hence, our energies have been squarely focused on proving the most robust remote learning experience possible, but also preserving and strengthening the sense of community that is so important to our school culture. In order to bring our community together, we have set-up a scavenger hunt for May 1st, 2020. This activity will supplement our Fine Arts Family Fun Fest which is a celebration of our art, music, and language programs on campus. I am excited to showcase this event as we have been working to create clues and art to display at the 10 locations (specific details will be sent shortly, but we hope your family will participate).

As I've told the students and our faculty many times in recent weeks, this year has with our a doubt been challenging. And yet, we've all grown in ways that are difficult to measure. I recommend to those reflecting on how to support others during difficult times Doris Kearns Goodwin's Pulitzer Prize winning book, *Leadership in Turbulent Times*. Indeed, from campus floods to a global pandemic, we've all grown and been tested in many ways. Of course, I am proud to say that our students, families, faculty, and staff have repeatedly and consistently displayed humility, grace, courage and perseverance.

Rachel, Josie and I send our thoughts, warmest wishes, and sincere thanks to each and every one of you. Thank you for your support and partnership.

Terra Verde Strong!

Sincerely,

Eric M. Snyder, Ph.D  
Headmaster, Terra Verde Discovery School