



May 5, 2020

Dear Terra Verde Families,

As Winston Churchill once said, “A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.” It is clear that our students, families, and faculty from kinder through 8th grade have remained steadfast through one of the most challenging years in the school's history.

And while we continue to focus attention on bringing the year to a successful close, this past week I've had the opportunity to join my colleagues to welcome newly admitted Owls to the Terra Verde community via Zoom or phone conversations. These calls have been energizing as we learned more about our newest Owls and learn about their family's genuine enthusiasm and excitement about joining our community. It has been yet another reminder of how much we have to look forward to in the coming months.

During the past week, our team has also been formalizing plans for culminating activities. Please see this [LINK](#) for our 2020 graduation plans which include a kindergarten promotion, 5th-grade promotion, 8th-grade graduation, and our first-ever whole school Hawaiian themed promotional promenade in vehicles! ☐ Please note we had to change our initial 8th-grade graduation date due to a conflict with OU's graduation ceremony. Per conversations with faculty and staff, we have adjusted our expectations for the final week of school to include character-building activities that connect directly to our virtue program (middle schoolers will be able to submit any make-up work). These specific plans will be shared with families as our goal is to celebrate the end of the year in true TVDS fashion.

As we look ahead, I also want to reassure you that we are making plans to safely resume summer camps, classes, and school on campus this fall. I am personally looking forward to welcoming our students back to continue many programs and experiences we all treasure. As we head into summer and learn more about public health requirements and expectations, we will share information about our plans to safely resume activities on campus.

Our highest priorities over summer are continuing to improve upon our academic curriculum, social curriculum, and instruction while expanding both our middle school and transition program enrollment. Please consider sharing about TVDS with members of our community as we are still honoring our referral program. We are also finalizing many campus projects which includes the 100% renewable solar energy goal prior to January of 2021.

For those who participate in last Friday evening scavenger hunt, thank you! This event warmed my heart as I loved seeing all of the kids and parents. The event is a great reminder that we are a community, made up of many varied parts, but unified by a common appreciation for education and preservation of a core set of values. Our plan is to complete the raffle drawing (families were entered if they submitted all 10 images of the scavenger hunt locations via email to office@terraverdeschool.com) on Friday at 11:00 am and to mail the prizes the same day. We will send a link to view the drawing live.

Important Dates

<u>Date of Event</u>	<u>Event Details</u>
May 12th	Volunteer Appreciate Day Postponed but alternative plan in place
May 19th	Virtual Open House for Prospective Families (Flyer sent shortly)
May 20th, 21st	8th Grade Capstone Project Presentations
May 22nd	Final Day of School Whole School Promotion Promenade (See link above for time slots)
May 25th	Progress Reports Available
June 25th	Prospective Parent Tour on Campus
July 17th	Prospective Parent Tour on Campus
July 18th	BBBB Event
August 6th	5th Grade Graduation
August 7th	TVDS 8th Grade Graduation (date changed from August 8th)
August 9th-11th	Faculty Retreat
August 20th	Back to School Night
August 24th	First Day of School 2020!

Thank you for all that you do to make TVDS such a special place for children to develop.

Terra Verde Strong!

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