## WARDLAW + HARTRIDGE

## Pioneering. Thinkers.

May 4, 2020

Dear W+H Parents,

I hope this letter finds you well and that you have found ways to replenish your patience amidst a time that finds many ways to try it. Today, as anticipated, Governor Murphy ordered all schools to remain closed for the remainder of the school year. Like you, I wish we could welcome all our students back to campus and resume our traditional classes and activities. While we await that day, we will continue to seek the best ways to engage all our students and foster the learning and personal growth that mark a W+H education.

Announcing this decision now provides our families and employees with clarity and allows us to focus on supporting and guiding our students in distance learning, determining how to conduct the celebratory events that mark the end of the school year, and continuing to connect with our entire community in ways that strengthen our bonds. We will share more news about those events once they are finalized. It also allows us to proceed with reimbursements to families for lunch, transportation, and afterschool program fees, now that we know distance learning will continue through the end of the school year. We'll send along more information on reimbursements soon.

We are planning to conduct our summer programs remotely where possible, though we will make contingency plans in case conditions allow some limited in person activities later in the summer. We are also beginning to plan for an anticipated re-opening in the fall, with safety and wellness as our highest priorities in so doing. Routines and procedures are likely to differ from what we have known previously, and we will share those plans well in advance of opening.

Thank you for your support and understanding. Please continue to follow hygiene and social distancing guidelines consistently to keep your families healthy.

Best regards,

Andy Webster Head of School

