

March 13, 2020

# Aztec Families/Guardians:

We have continued to track developments with the situation caused by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), anticipate any interventions necessary, and plan timely communications for you, our families. As you can't help but notice, the situation has evolved rapidly.

Every HFA student deserves an empowering education. That core belief, and the health and safety of our students, families, and staff remain top of mind at every decision point. Through the growing body of scientific research and guidance from trusted sources, we've become aware of our social responsibility to also do what we can to slow the growth of the virus as well.

This afternoon, our Board of Directors held an emergency meeting (in accordance with TEA requirements), to review our contingency plans and approve a proposal to suspend regular school days through March 18, 2020 for all students and move to our alternative learning plan on March 19, 2020. Students will engage in learning through off-campus programming through April 3, 2020.

Beginning March 19, all HFA students and staff will partner in an alternate learning plan with off-campus programming, which includes instruction and assignments provided through an online platform, other "pen + paper" and art assignments, one-to-one student-staff check-ins, participation/attendance requirements, and submission of student work for assessment.

#### **Timeline At-a-Glance**

## Monday, March 16 - Wednesday, March 18

No school for students. Staff onsite to collaborate on the continued development, communication and implementation of our alternate learning plan

## Thursday, March 19

Administrators onsite will welcome students to campus in small groups (to maintain "social distancing"). A designated time will be communicated to you by Tuesday 5pm. At this time, your student can pick up supplies, talk with our administrators about their expectations for our





alternate learning plan engagement, and discuss any other resources that might be needed to support their learning and well-being.

### Thursday, March 19 - Friday, April 3

Staff and students engage in the alternate learning plan. Students should practice "social distancing" when they are not working on their designated activities. Staff will provide educational and social-emotional support to students through a variety of strategies -- phone calls, email and text messages.

#### Tuesday, March 31

School leaders and the Board of Directors will re-evaluate our ability to reinstate the full student body on campus.

Regular updates will come your way. We are also continuing to build out the dedicated resource page on our website with helpful links and updates for your reference: https://thealamedaschool.org/news/coronavirus-covid-19-resources-for-families/

You often tell us that you chose our school for its focus on personal connections, and/or the quality learning experience. We assure you that we are making every effort to stay true to those valued attributes during a time of extreme uncertainty. There are sure to be refinements to our plans along the way. To that end, we will all need to work together with our exceptionally high level of tolerance, patience, and kindness. Should you have any questions or special circumstances, please contact me at jmontez@thealamedaschool.org.

Educationally yours,

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Jeremiah Montez

Principal/Superintendent

Henry Ford Academy: Alameda School for Art + Design

