

March 12, 2020

VCS East and West Families:

The safety of Vanguard Classical School students, staff, and families will always be our paramount concern. The COVID-19 virus has certainly plunged us into an unprecedented time with numerous questions that have yet to be answered at our school, district, state, country, and globe. I'd like to try and fill you in on decisions that the Vanguard Classical School leadership team and the Aurora Public School administrative team have been making. We will also do our best to continue to keep you abreast of new developments as the situation continues to unfold.

Earlier today, we learned that Aurora Public Schools is extending the 2020 Spring Break by an additional week for all APS schools including charter schools. **VCS will follow this extended Spring Break and VCS students are now expected to return on Monday, March 30 – 18 days from now.** We will be working with APS to determine whether or not we will need to make up this week through extended school hours later in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, or extending the school year. That question remains unanswered.

Vanguard Classical School, along with most other APS charter schools, has joined with Aurora Public Schools to follow their procedures and protocol during this COVID-19 predicament. VCS can actually do more than APS (for example, the VCS leadership team chose to close VCS today when other APS schools were open) but larger, district and state-wide decisions and mandates determined by CDE and APS will be followed closely by VCS. At Vanguard Classical School, we can always do more, but we must at least follow what APS and CDE dictate. One preventative measure we are taking at both campuses is a Spring Break deep cleaning. We have hired an independent cleaning contractor to thoroughly sanitize both the East and West campuses during the next two weeks following stringent procedures that have been outlined by the Tri-County Health Department and the Colorado Department of Education.

We care about our students, staff, and families so very deeply and realize that you likely have numerous questions that we just do not have answers to at the present time. When we get information, we will share it immediately. COVID-19 is clearly going to disrupt and change our schedules, habits, and lives for a while. This will not be an easy transition. However, it will not change who we are as a school community. How we react and work together in times like these help define who we are, and I have no doubt that the Vanguard Classical School family will rise to the occasion.

Rest assured, your safety and the safety of our students and families is our paramount concern.

Please enjoy the extended Spring Break, and stay tuned for further communication. At present, we very much look forward to seeing your children back at VCS East and VCS West on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

Jay Cerny, Ed.S.  
VCS Executive Director



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