



Dear Eagle Hill Community,

These are clearly unprecedented times for our country and, as you can imagine, for boarding schools and colleges in particular. We remain thankful that we currently have no known or suspected cases of COVID-19 in the Eagle Hill community.

As always, the health and safety of our students and faculty remain at the heart of every decision we make at Eagle Hill School. Our strong conviction is that a proactive approach to this situation is imperative. We have consulted with experts in infectious disease as we make determinations for the Eagle Hill community. Based on the rapid spread of the coronavirus, Governor Baker's declaration of a state of emergency for Massachusetts, and the likelihood of the virus reaching our own community, we have determined that the only prudent course of action is to close campus on Sunday, March 15. By April 10, we will provide an update about the reopening of campus.

Accordingly, we ask that families begin immediately to schedule travel by coordinating with Scott Kelley (skelley@eaglehill.school) in the EHS travel office. All students must depart campus no later than 5:00pm Sunday. The standard White Plains, Darien, CT, and New York City buses will depart campus at 4:00pm Thursday, March 12. On Friday, March 13, we will follow a typical travel day protocol. Parents are welcome to provide their own or private transportation for their children beginning now and should coordinate with the EHS travel office for school-provided travel beginning Thursday after classes. If you are picking up your child in person, please remember to follow the usual check-out procedures.

Students and families should discuss what personal belongings they wish to bring home at this time, and the student life department will assist students in making arrangements for storage of any items that students would prefer not to leave in their dormitory rooms for an extended period. We ask that you direct any questions about packing or storage to Chris Hancock in student life (chancock@eaglehill.school).

On-campus classes will continue through Thursday. Online instruction, via the school's existing learning management system, will begin on Monday, March 16. Students should plan to log in to their existing EHS accounts via the website as they do while at school. As parents, you will also have continued access to the same resources. Teachers will prepare students for the transition to online learning during classes tomorrow. Additional updates about online learning, college counseling, and communication with teachers will come from Michael Riendeau (mriendeau@eaglehill.school) in the coming days.

This situation is among the most challenging that we have faced in my twenty-seven years at Eagle Hill School. Thank you for your understanding, patience, and partnership as we navigate this moment together.

PJ McDonald
Head of School
Eagle Hill School