



March 14, 2020

Dear Parents of Challenger Students Attending California, Nevada, and Utah Campuses,

I recognize that, as of yesterday, public schools have closed in several states. I hear the requests asking for Challenger School to do the same, and I also hear the statements of gratitude for keeping our doors open. It is difficult to provide a solution that meets the needs of every family. We remain committed to providing your children with quality education and care as we strive to provide a plan that offers you a choice. I hope you find options in the following plan that are suitable for your situation.

Challenger will continue to be open for school unless circumstances change and/or unless health or government authorities instruct us to close our doors. Your child will not need to attend, but our doors will be open if you need us.

In light of recent developments with COVID-19, we are making the following adjustments to our schedule for the next two weeks:

- **March 16–20 will be a week of repetition and review with no new material being presented to the students.** Speech Festival and all tests/assessments (including the Iowa standardized testing) will be rescheduled to a later date, and attendance records will not be affected.

This will provide a good opportunity for students who are attending school to solidify already presented material, and if you choose to keep your children home that week, they will not miss out on new material. We will adjust the curriculum schedule to ensure that all essential concepts are covered by the end of the year.

- **March 23–27 will be spring break (rescheduled from April 6–10).**

Moving the spring break originally scheduled for April 6–10 allows us all some time to work through this situation. We hope and anticipate that conditions will have improved by that point. If not, we will reassess.

We are very aware of parents who work in industries who will need to continue working through this rescheduled spring break. As a result, we intend to offer a Spring Break Camp of fun learning exercises and outdoor activities for any of our students who attend. There will be no charge for this camp. We endeavor to maintain regular campus hours and hope this provides assistance to parents who rely on our services.

While we understand our teachers definitely need and deserve a spring break, we expect there will be many who will be willing and available to help staff this camp. We will provide additional, significant compensation for their helpful assistance during this difficult time. Understandably, the spaces available in the camp may be limited. Consequently, parents who are employed in essential community services will have priority attendance.

These changes will affect most of us in some way, especially those of you who have made plans during the originally planned week of spring break. But I hope you recognize that we're trying to address concerns during a difficult time while still providing services to those who work in industries (e.g., health, emergency services, retail, travel, military) whose schedules cannot as easily be adjusted as others who can work from home.

Please understand that we are meticulously following the advice and direction from the [CDC and local and state health officials](#), and none of them have advised or demanded that we close our doors. In fact, there are many indicators that doing so can have unintended consequences. Some health officials have even specifically not recommended the closure of preschools. We agree with their reasoning.

We will continue to rigorously clean and disinfect our campuses to help ensure they are as safe and clean as possible, and we will provide additional information as it becomes available. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Hugh Gourgeon  
CEO