



March 16, 2020

Dear Coastal Empire Montessori Families, Staff & School Community,

Following the guidance of public health authorities and both the federal and Georgia state governments, CEMCS will provide exclusively online instruction and digital learning opportunities after Spring Break. That is, classes will not resume on the Buckhalter Road campus, but rather teachers will offer information, resources, instruction, assignments, and guidance **electronically** to all K - 5th-grade students. This change takes effect on Monday, March 23, 2020, and continues until such time that a return to campus is officially declared safe for all.

After Spring Break, CEMCS faculty will begin transitioning their instruction for online delivery. What exactly that looks like for our Montessori elementary school will be a work in progress, but rest assured, we are committed to providing as much relevant content and as many targeted learning opportunities as possible in a digital format. We will work together as a community to ensure that we are meeting everyone's needs as completely and consistently as we can.

We will be making every effort to supply families with the tools needed to make the digital learning period a success. Your child's teacher will be reaching out to you to see if you need help getting online - whether it be a need for internet service or an electronic device. Please keep your eye out for communication from your child's teacher as we conduct this needs assessment.

Also, we will provide directions at the end of this week about how you may collect items like student medication, personal items and needed school supplies from the school for the closure period.

Additionally, it is possible that during the closure period, weekday meal service normally provided by the school (through the SCCPSS School Nutrition Department) will continue in the community. We will share information about that as soon as we have details.

Finally, please note that this closure was a decision of the CEMCO Board of Trustees and applies to CEMCS independently of the SCCPSS. We feel it is important to get the information out to our community as soon as possible so that you may prepare for what is going to be a trying time for all of us.

Take care of yourselves, your families and your loved ones. We are grateful to have you as partners in the work of "flattening the curve," and please hug the kids for us!

Sincerely,

***SWB-W***

Stephanie Babcock-Wright  
CEMCS Director

***EB***

Elizabeth Berenguer  
CEMCO Board Chair

***KM-D***

Katherine Morrison-Davis  
CEMCS Head of Instruction