

June 24, 2020

Dear Potomac Parent:

I pray this message finds you and your family doing well. Now that the school year has come to an official close, I hope that you can carve out time for some much-deserved rest and relaxation with your loved ones.

Over the past few months, we have endured the unpredictable, unknown, and unexplored realities of COVID-19. Little did we know when the school year began in August 2019 that it would require all of us to become cyber-savvy. Thank you for your patience, kindness, and perseverance with our educators as we navigated through these uncharted waters. As we look to the upcoming school year, I wanted to update you on what the Potomac Conference Office of Education team is doing to help support you individually and our schools in general.

We are currently working with each principal to develop critical area capacities as a part of their contingency plans for the 2020-2021 school year. These areas will include the following:

- additional space possibilities
- instructional/scheduling options
- identification/acquisition of supplemental supplies, and
- review of current procedures and policies.

Additionally, the Center for Disease Control's recommendations and guidelines have been shared with all personnel. We want to be prepared for every possible scenario and have a structured plan in place for our schools. As we receive updated information from Maryland and Virginia, our contingency plans will be modified.

We understand the necessity to keep you informed so that you can also be fully prepared to assist in your child's academic success. As soon as we have a finalized plan based on each State's guidelines, we will communicate that information to you. Our timeline will depend on when we receive the final official word from Governors Northam and Hogan.

We also want to assure you that our schools are intentionally structured to be safe places for all students. Each individual's uniqueness is to be guarded, celebrated, and respected. Building a just and fair environment where children can flourish is paramount. The goal is to understand, learn and grow so that we can craft schools where all children have the opportunity to thrive. In doing so, we will be an active part of advocating for a society that embraces each person's God-given potential. This has been and will continue to be the goal of all of our Potomac schools.

Again, thank you for your continued support of Seventh-day Adventist education. All of our educators are here to provide excellence for you and your child. You and your family will continue to be kept in prayer.

Sincerely,

Steve Laing, V.P. of Education for the Potomac Conference