## Dear Families,

We hope this letter finds you well and adapting to all the changes in our world right now. This time has been a chaotic one, not only for our own families, but also as we work to serve you and keep Holy Covenant CDC thriving. In recent days, the CDC Advisory Board has had to make some difficult decisions and we need to update you.

The Board has taken time to reassess the current situation we all find ourselves in as a result of this global pandemic. We recognize that what we thought would be temporary has quickly become life changing for us all. What remains steadfast is our commitment to your child's wellbeing, education and foremost, health. As a result, the decision has been made to close Holy Covenant CDC for the remainder of this school year.

## What does that mean going forward?

First, there's the issue of refunds. Per our parent handbook, there are no refunds after March 1<sup>st</sup> regardless of circumstance. However, at this time the Board feels it is more important to take care of our families than it is to adhere to this policy. We have voted to create a COVID 19-specific refund policy. We understand that some of you may have lost jobs or be suffering financial hardship. We want to give you the opportunity to recoup this money and use it to support your family if needed.

If you wish to be refunded for the last two weeks of March and any prepaid April/May tuition, please email a refund request to <a href="wickiparnell@hckaty.org">wickiparnell@hckaty.org</a> by noon on Tuesday, April 14. If you have an overdue balance that amount will be deducted from the refund and you will receive the remaining.

If you wish to donate this money to the CDC instead, you do not have to do anything. After April 14<sup>th</sup>, all funds will be converted to donations and you will receive a tax donation letter. If you choose to donate, you have our sincerest gratitude. These are obviously difficult times and your donated funds will help us to pay our staff and teachers, continue the virtue learning program and cover costs for the coming school year.

Next up, virtual learning. We have heard some truly heartwarming reports from many of you regarding the positive impact of remote teaching. As parents, we have personally experienced the joy of our children seeing their teachers and friends on Zoom or Facebook, engaging in story time or taking part in a craft. We believe this continuity offers stability and comfort to our children during a very disruptive time. We sincerely hope to continue this program. There is a financial reality to this though. For now, remote learning will continue. The Board will reassess funding after the April 14<sup>th</sup> refund deadline and provide an update on the feasibility of maintaining remote learning through the end of the school year. Please note that your choice to refund or donate will not impact your child's ability to participate in this program.

Finally, we cannot express how humbled we are by our teachers' response to this situation. In the beginning, information changed almost daily and while the Board did our best to sort it out, your teachers continued to work even as questions of job security swirled. This is on top of juggling the changes in their own homes and the stress that COVID 19 has brought to all of us. If

you appreciate what they're doing, please let them know. We could all benefit from a little extra love right now.

As always, please reach out to us if your family needs assistance during these difficult times. Your support of HCCDC is greatly appreciated and allows us to continue doing what we love - nurturing and educating your children. We cannot wait until our halls are once again filled with their beautiful faces and joyful sounds!

Blessings,

Jenny Heitmann & Christie Schultz Chair & Vice Chair, Holy Covenant CDC Advisory Board