



March 13, 2020

Dear Mount Vernon Christian School Community,

We are continuing to monitor the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, and we want to communicate with you and let you know that we are working to ensure the health and safety of our staff and students. We have been in communication with other school districts, both public and private, the Skagit DOH, the State of Washington DOH and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). Yesterday, the Skagit DOH was not recommending school closure. However, we as a school can make decisions that are best for our community.

According to the Skagit County Department of Public Health:

The risk that you might be exposed to COVID-19 in Skagit County and Washington State will increase with time. It is essential that we prepare now so that we can reduce the negative effects in Skagit County. Most people will experience only mild illness but we need to slow the spread of disease and prevent exposures to people at greater risk of serious illness.

In order to better enable social distancing Mount Vernon Christian School will be closed on Monday, March 16 for an indefinite period of time. The following items are some things that we have in place or that we know as of today at 12:00pm.

- Monday, March 16 and Tuesday, March 17 Mount Vernon Christian School will be closed and not in session. Faculty and Staff will be meeting on these days to plan for the implementation of a remote learning model for all students K-12. Preschool is cancelled until further notice.
- Starting, Wednesday, March 18 Mount Vernon Christian School will begin using a remote learning model for all students K-12. The specific details of this will be shared with students and parents early next week.
- We have prepared a needed materials list for all students in grades 6-12. This list will be provided for students today and they will have all the materials they need.
- We sent a survey to all parents and we will work to sift through that information over the weekend so we can provide all families the tools they may need to work within a remote learning model. If you have not completed the survey please do so ASAP. Only one survey is needed per household.
- All MS and HS activities have been postponed or cancelled until further notice. This includes the postponement of the musical and athletic contests, as well as the cancellation of all practices.
- After the school day today, the campus will be closed until further notice, with the exception of faculty and staff as needed to plan and execute our remote learning.
- We will await the Skagit DOH reports and pass on information as it becomes known to us.
- We will again fully disinfect all areas of campus prior to our return date.
- Our Faculty and Staff training time will begin Monday, March 16 at 8am. We will be opening with a time of devotions and prayer. We invite you to pause in your day Monday at 8:15am and join us from wherever you are as we pray for wisdom, healing, understanding and grace.

From the Contemporary Testimony Our World Belongs to God:

*As followers of Jesus Christ,  
living in this world—  
which some seek to control,  
and others view with despair—  
we declare with joy and trust:  
Our world belongs to God!*

On a personal note, I am so grateful for the hope we share in Christ. I am blessed daily to work with the best team of teachers and support staff, who have already prepared many things in advance, so our students continue to feel loved and continue to grow as disciples of Jesus.

In His Service,

Jeffrey A. Droog, Superintendent