



Dear Tamarack Waldorf School Community,

What a wonderful warm weekend we were blessed with! After long weeks of being home I hope each of you were able to enjoy some time outside in the sunshine. During this continued Safer at Home Order, it is fundamentally important to take moments to acknowledge the change of season and what springtime brings to our souls. Springtime offers new beginnings and opportunities for regeneration and renewal. Springtime brings a glorious bounty of energy bursting from the earth and reminds us of something universal. Perhaps this year the most important reminder is that springtime knows nothing of COVID-19 and comes to us as a gift just the same as it always has. For that, we are blessed.

This spring I am missing you—the families, the children and the staff. As I provide updates to you all, I look most forward to a time when we are all together again.

Monday marks the beginning of our sixth week of Distance Learning and our eight week of building closure. During this week the final Distance Learning Packets will be created for pick-up on Saturday, May 9, from 9am-1pm. This last packet will contain two weeks of work, ending on Friday, May 22. The week of May 25 will be a week for students to complete any unfinished work for final turn in the following week. The procedure for picking up the final Distance Learning Packet will follow our last pick up guidelines. A reminder will be sent out during this week.

As the month of May unfolds, we will continue to follow the Safer at Home guidelines, along with monitoring the situation at many levels to see what changes may develop for the month of June. The hope is to offer some type of in-person time at school for students and teachers, as a way to bring closure to the school year. Additionally, we will look to find a way to celebrate our 8th grade class as they finish their final year as Tamarack Waldorf students. Please continue to pay attention to communications from your class teachers and the school as we get closer to the end of our school year.

Imagining into next year we are just beginning to understand what precautions and procedures need to be in place in order for us to have a healthy and safe school environment for our community. We are paying close attention to recommendations and re-entry plans which will be developing through the summer months that incorporates safety measures such as physical distancing, increased cleaning, and appropriate group sizing to maintain in-person teaching and learning models as much as possible. In addition, we are dedicated to improving our remote learning methods for any days when the facility may need to be closed. We will implement these new procedures with the intention and rhythms expected in a Waldorf school.

We are living in this uncertainty together and this uncertainty is uncomfortable at best. Week by week we know more and have more understanding of our path ahead and can plan accordingly.

There absolutely is a Beyond COVID community, a Beyond COVID school, and a Beyond COVID normal that we will adapt to and thrive within. This period of our lives, in the grand long view, will be something we tell stories to our grandchildren about, and as it has been said before in the long grand view of Waldorf education in the world and at Tamarack Waldorf School, we got this!

With continued Love, Light and Health,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lora Poulos".

Lora Poulos
Administrative Director