



March 24th, 2020

**Christi's Corner:**

Hello dearest NFSIS families,

What a strange time we are living in. This is history in the making, and I am glad to be able to say that we will have gotten through it together, whenever that moment comes.

For me personally, the first week was novel, I enjoyed the more relaxed mornings, homeschooling the kids, spending time with the family, slowing down the pace. I knew it was the right move by the District and State to shut down, and felt good supporting what needed to be done.

Now, even though I continue to know that keeping public spaces closed and social distancing from one another is critical, I am starting to miss life as an educator. I personally got into this career and continued to choose it over and over again because I love people. I love kids, love their hugs, their bright eyes, the excitement that they bring to life. I have been working with kids since I started at a sports camp counselor when I was 15 years old. Now I have the opportunity to work not only with kids, but with an incredible staff of teachers and also with parents who want their kids to grow into productive and thoughtful citizens of this community and the world. I miss all of you so much! Being behind the computer endlessly is not my thing, but we must all make do the best we can.

I trust that you are all out there doing what you need to do for your families right now. We all have a different mix going of family/homeschool/work/life balance - if you are anything like me, you are taking it just a day at a time. I truly hope that you are doing your best to find the positive in this new reality that we are living in. Continue looking at what you are grateful for each day.

Please read on for the information that we have on Distance Learning and more.



## NORTH FORK SCHOOL OF INTEGRATED STUDIES

### Calendar:

#### Upcoming important dates

#### **This week:**

- Teachers begin preparing distance learning.

#### **Later on:**

- 3/30 - Packet/work supplies pick up at school
- 4/6 - Packet/work supplies pick up at school
- 4/8 - Community Council - see below
- 4/13 - Packet/work supplies pick up at school
- 4/20 - Potential re-opening of school, TBD. There will be no Spring Break this week due to the loss of school from 3/16 - 3/27
- 5/11 - 5/15 - 6th grade trip to Canyonlands (if possible)

### Gratitudes:

*Thanks to Frank and David for working hard keeping the building clean and sterilized.*

### Distance Learning

Your classroom teacher will be rolling out distance learning plans for you next week. You will be seeing an email from them about the plan by Wednesday afternoon.

Packet/work materials pick up will be on the outside sidewalk of your classroom - staggered on Monday mornings. We want to avoid children being in the buildings if at all possible. Your teacher is your first point of contact - if you need anything, please let them know and they will either be able to help you out or point you in the right direction.

Materials - we will be sending home the Waldorf crayons and pencil sets to 1 - 6th grade. Please do your best to take great care with these materials as we often are able to use them over the course of many years.

Each teacher will be rolling out Distance Learning as they see fit for the developmental age of children - some may be using mostly paper pencil, others will be using Google Classroom. Please don't hesitate to communicate with you teacher about



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what is and what is not working for you. Each teacher will have 4 hours of "office hours" per day where they will be available to you by phone, google chat or other.

### Committee for fund delegation

We would like to put together a small committee to look at fund delegation and prioritization for next year. NFSIS is considering a Pedagogical Director position, an aide position, continued enrichment, potential half time teacher funding etc... that will be funded through fees, donations and fundraising. If you are interested in being on this committee, please email Christi directly as to why you would like to participate - [christi.gubser@deltaschools.com](mailto:christi.gubser@deltaschools.com) and we will set up a google meeting with everyone on the topic.

### Community Council

We would like to have a virtual community council on 4/8 from 4:30 - 6 PM as usual. Please email Christi with a gmail address to be "invited" to the Google hangout. All are welcome.

### Intent to Enroll

We hope that you are all planning on coming back to NFSIS next school year. I have attached an intent to enroll form for next year. If we get back to school, we would like to get hard copies of this form to reserve your spot and also to be clear on our numbers for next year. Please contact Christi if you are NOT planning to return to NFSIS next year.

### Positive Behaviors at Home

Please read the attached letter on positive behaviors at home - one of the most clear and comprehensive docs on how to keep the peace in this new homeschooling time.

### Upcoming Marimba Residency

**Cancelled - hopefully to be rescheduled in May if possible.**

### March Conference - Indigenous Voices in Education

**Cancelled**

### Testing

**State testing for 3rd - 6th grade is CANCELLED**



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### End of year field trips

As of now, school is back on in May. We will continue planning for end of year field trips. We will see what ensues as time goes on. 6th grade - please see attached permission slips and details on Canyonlands trip.

### Highlights

Highlights from distance learning will be back next week!