



March 3, 2020

Dear Nobles Parents, Guardians and Students,

After careful consideration, we have decided to cancel all Nobles domestic and international trips through March break. This includes all EXCEL trips, all athletic team trips, the Class V trip to Washington, D.C., and the Class VI Identity Week trip in Boston.

This decision was not easy to make, and I know will be a significant disappointment for the students who were looking forward to such meaningful experiences, and for the Nobles faculty who invested enormous amounts of time, talent and care in planning for these trips. Ultimately, though, it became clear that the unpredictability of the spread of novel coronavirus (COVID-19), coupled with the logistical complications that are emerging in the wake of the global and national response to this outbreak, pose too great a level of risk to student safety for us to proceed with our trips. Ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our students is paramount, and we will always prioritize that above all else.

Middle School

The Middle School is currently evaluating the best on-campus options for student programming next week for Classes V and VI. An update on those plans will be sent from the Middle School in a few days.

Finances

Given this decision, we will be actively seeking ways to recoup or repurpose funds from each EXCEL and athletics trip. After we learn about our options, our focus will be squarely on what is fair and reasonable for our families given the complicated circumstances. We will address these complexities and communicate back with all impacted Nobles families as quickly as we are able.

Contacts

If you have follow-up questions, please direct them to:

EXCEL Trip Questions:

Ben Snyder

ben_snyder@nobles.edu, 781-320-7043

Middle School Trip Questions:

John Gifford

john_gifford@nobles.edu, 781-320-7013

Athletic Trip Questions:

Alex Gallagher

alex_gallagher@nobles.edu, 781-320-7247

I am, of course, happy to speak with you as well if you have questions or I can be of help. (chall@nobles.edu, 781-320-7121).

Meeting

All Upper School students who were scheduled to go on EXCEL or athletics trips over March break should attend a meeting tomorrow at 8 a.m. in Lawrence Auditorium. We will share more about the rationale for our decision, and answer any questions you might have.

Next Steps

As I shared over the weekend, our Coronavirus Response Task Force will continue to closely monitor this dynamic situation, deepening our planning and preparation to ensure we can swiftly address any unexpected risks to campus safety or our school program that emerge as this epidemic evolves.

Thank you for your trust and patience as we partner to support the safety and wellbeing of our students.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Hall". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name.

Catherine J. Hall, Ph.D.

Head of School