



**ROYCEMORE**

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**100** YEARS Proud history  
Inspired future

April 18, 2020

Dear Roycemore Families,

The far-reaching impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been a heartbreaking experience on many levels. Yesterday's pronouncement by Governor Pritzker extending the suspension of in-person school instruction for the remainder of the year is especially heartbreaking. For a community as strong as Roycemore that values the deep, personal connections we have with students and families, we thrive when we are together. In the days and weeks ahead, we will be doing all we can to continue those connections. We are planning zoom meetings with division heads, family social meet-ups, virtual game nights, and helpful parent education sessions along with a number of similar opportunities for students.

### **Seeking Your Creative Thoughts on Year-End Celebrations**

Such virtual activities can never take the place of in-person gatherings. I know you share my sadness about the loss of our cherished year-end celebrations ranging from awards ceremonies and Palio, to the Lower School musical and graduations. I want to assure you that the faculty and I are working hard to determine ways we can continue to honor our special traditions in alternative ways. We invite you to share your ideas with us. Separately, we are also reaching out to our seniors and 8th grade students and their families to discuss graduation. I can only imagine how disappointed they are and I am fighting back my own tears just thinking about all that they are missing. I am still hopeful that we will be able to come together in person in some fashion- even if it is at a later date. Students-- please know that we love you and are committed to find ways to celebrate you and your accomplishments!

### **Remote Learning Continues- Please Provide Feedback**

As previously shared with you, the school is committed to providing the very best educational experience possible for your children during remote learning. This past week we posted a [Remote Learning Handbook](#) on the [Remote Learning Site](#) that details the current plan. Our plan will continue to evolve, however, and that is where your regular feedback is important and appreciated. With that in mind, we ask that you participate in another survey to share your thoughts with us so that we can continue to iterate.

We have two opportunities for parents to provide feedback this week plus **we will be sending a separate survey to middle and upper school STUDENTS.**

1. **[National Survey by ISM \(For Parents\)](#)**- if you only complete one survey- please do this!

The first opportunity to provide feedback that we hope everyone will take time to respond to is a survey prepared by a national firm, Independent School Management (ISM). ISM is managing confidential collection of responses, tabulating the results, and providing us with timely feedback specific to Roycemore. This survey will be also used to measure trends across all private schools. Your feedback will be very helpful as we work hard to serve you and our students. You can access the survey at **[THIS LINK](#)**. The survey will remain open until Thursday April 23rd.

## 2. **[Roycemore Quick Response Survey](#)**

As the ISM survey is confidential, and does not provide opportunity for rich, text feedback, we wanted to provide you an additional **[optional opportunity to share your thoughts with us](#)**. You can be sure that we are reading each and every response and taking your feedback into consideration, along with the feedback of others, in our continued response to COVID-19.

As always, I am grateful for your partnership in support of your children's education.

Be safe, stay healthy, and love each other!

Adrienne Finley Odell

Head of School