



March 17, 2020

Dear Gateway College Preparatory Families,

We deeply care for the safety of our community and continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 outbreak on a daily basis. Based on guidance from the CDC and local officials, we feel it is important to close Gateway College Preparatory School through Friday, April 3, 2020 to ensure the safety of our entire community and help reduce the spread of the virus. This includes all activities and events scheduled during and outside of school hours. We tentatively plan to reopen our schools on Monday, April 6, but parents should proactively make arrangements if students are required to stay home longer. Orenda Charter School District will continue to take direction from local, state, and federal officials as events unfold and will let families know no later than Monday, March 30 if extended closure is needed.

We are committed to providing continuity of instructional support for all of our students, including those receiving special education services. Starting next week, we will begin to provide instruction through distance learning to all students. Our teachers will work to finalize plans on Monday, March 23rd to begin distance learning on Tuesday, March 24th.

We will continue to utilize our current system, Blackboard Learn, for lessons, instruction, and assignments. You may see changes in content as we make a shift from in-class instruction to at-home instruction. We will also be supplementing Blackboard with teacher support through phone and/or webinars at scheduled time. More information on the specifics of our distance learning will be communicated early next week.

STAAR testing, originally scheduled to begin April 7, has been canceled by the state. No decisions have been made by the College Board related to AP exams.

We will continue to monitor the ongoing public health matter with COVID-19 and will provide you with additional information as it becomes available. Thank you for your understanding and your patience as we work to establish systems and structures to continue our commitment to high-quality education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Carla Silber'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carla Silber
Superintendent/COO
Orenda Public Charter School District