



Dear Winston families and staff,

School remains in session “on-line” in the weeks to come as we continue our remote learning platforms.

You have received numerous correspondences from the School, and I suspect numerous e-mails from a host of other vendors and agencies. Thus, I will be brief.

Four weeks ago, a group of staff met to prepare for what we then envisioned as a potential remote learning platform that is now the “new Winston”; at that time, we committed to the following core principles:

- establishing the ideal remote, on-line learning environment and platform for the School and for our students;
- creating a schedule for children that is clear, structured and flexible;
- involving parents while understanding that many are probably working from home themselves;
- understanding teacher and student needs, as well as providing ongoing support and personalized resources for students' success;
- setting up routines and programs that once in effect would anticipate and enable regular fine-tuning, change and enhancements.

In so many ways, we as a community have pulled together and launched this dynamic and bold on-line learning program and environment consistent with the principles noted above. Staff is to be commended for their intensity of purpose and their willingness to experiment, change and push forward new programs and ideas. Our programs have been characterized by exciting adventures, twists and turns, and occasional bumps along the Internet highway. But together we have experienced successful beginnings to what will be our “new normal” in terms of instruction and content exploration over the next weeks.

I am grateful to the parents of Winston children for your energy, your support and your positive and understanding feedback. This is a time when we as adults must be empathetic and supportive of one another. And, I commend our students at Winston for their seriousness of purpose and steadfast resolve to make this new environment for learning a productive and inspiring formula.

Additionally, I thought that you would be interested in some very positive news regarding The Winston School. Dr. Sally Shaywitz of Yale University, author of the classic book “Overcoming Dyslexia,” and a former speaker and trainer of staff at Winston sent the following e-mail yesterday:

“First off, congratulations! In these troubling times of uncertainty and worry, we who care so deeply about dyslexic boys and girls and ensuring their education, are excited to share some positive and hopeful news especially for you, The Winston School and the Winston School community. **The Winston School has been selected for special praise and inclusion in the new 2nd edition of my well-received best-selling book, Overcoming Dyslexia (Knopf, 2020).**”

The Winston School is specifically named and listed in the book. We hope you will consider this resource for your library. The book is available on Amazon in paper or as an audio book.

In closing, you can access all past letters and resource documents on the [Winston School web-site](#). The school buildings are closed and the only staff on campus with regularity are: janitorial staff and technology support staff. As many of you have found to be the case, we are responding as promptly as possible to phone messages and e-mails.

Stay safe everyone. And, our extraordinary staff looks forward to home-room on-line check-in with your children on Monday morning.

Sincerely,

Peter S. Lewis
Head of School