

Schaeffer Academy  
From the Headmaster

March 15, 2020

Dear Schaeffer Academy Families,

At his press conference this morning, Governor Walz and his team announced the following:

- Minnesota Schools should close by Wednesday, March 18.
- They should remain closed until March 27.
- The closure is to be used by teachers and administrators to plan for distance learning after March 27.

You can read all of the details in the governor's [Emergency Executive Order](#).

The Governor has encouraged private schools to fulfill the spirit and directives of the Executive Order, and Schaeffer Academy intends to do so. As Christians, we believe that God has established civil authorities and given them certain duties and responsibilities. When they do the work that God has ordained for them, we are called to submit to their authority (see I Peter 2:3-17). In seeking to protect lives by slowing the spread of a deadly disease, the Governor is performing his God given duty, and we are thankful for his efforts. We will do our part to support his most recent directive.

We will certainly be sending additional communications and instructions in the days to come. But, for now, here is our plan for the next three weeks:

- 1) Schaeffer Academy will be open on March 16 and 17. We will run classes and before/after care as usual, but the main reasons we will remain open are (a) to give students the opportunity to pick up books and materials and (b) to give parents time to make arrangements for child care during the school closure.
- 2) Although we will be open on March 16 and 17, parents should feel free to keep their students at home at their discretion. Absences will be excused. If you do keep your student home, we ask that you inform us by sending an email to [Attendance@schaefferacademy.org](mailto:Attendance@schaefferacademy.org)
- 3) Although school will be open on March 16 and 17, sports (including winter sports banquets and spring sports captain's practices) and extracurricular activities will not. All sports and extracurricular activities are cancelled until further notice.
- 4) We are working on a mechanism to enable Schaeffer Academy families to help one another with child care and other needs during the closure. We will send details as soon as possible.
- 5) If family to family solutions for the childcare of healthcare workers, first responders, and other critical workers cannot be finalized by March 18, those children may continue to come to

Schaeffer until such solutions can be finalized. If you need help arranging childcare after March 17, please send an email to [Attendance@schaefferacademy.org](mailto:Attendance@schaefferacademy.org) as soon as possible.

6) From March 18 until March 27 Schaeffer Academy's faculty will be working hard to finalize distance learning plans. There will be no regular teacher/student communication on these days.

7) From March 28 until April 6, Schaeffer Academy will be on Spring Break. Students will not have school on April 6 as previously scheduled. You should look for an announcement on April 6 informing you of how education will recommence on April 7 - whether we'll return to campus or commence distance learning.

Please continue to pray that God will protect us, that he will strengthen us, and that he will enable us to share Truth, Beauty, and Goodness with one another and our neighbors in these trying times.

God loves us and will care for us. He is sovereign and omnipotent. He can and will do what is right.

Thanks for being a part of Schaeffer Academy.

Sincerely,

Keith E. Phillips, Headmaster  
SCHAEFFER ACADEMY