



LONG TRAIL SCHOOL
VERMONT'S INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE SCHOOL



1045 Kirby Hollow Rd, Dorset, VT 05251
(802) 867-5717 longtrailschool.org

Dear LTS Family,

On Thursday evening, Governor Scott [directed](#) that "schools for preK-12 students shall remain dismissed for in-person instruction for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, unless otherwise ordered by the Governor if the COVID-19 response should allow." It is unknowable how much weight to put in that potential future exception. So we will continue to be ready for the likelihood that we will be learning and teaching away from our beautiful campus for the remainder of this semester. We will be in touch with you separately in the coming days on end-of-the-year traditions such as commencement, trips, and prom.

Joseph Campbell, the late literature professor at Sarah Lawrence and the pre-eminent expert on mythology, taught that "Myths are public dreams. Dreams are private myths. Myths are vehicles of communication between the conscious and the unconscious, just as dreams are." [*The Power of Myth* (1991), at p 40]. We together as a community – teachers, students, and families – are now writing the story of the Spring of 2020, through the veil of our grief and dislocation. Our students will always remember the investments by – really, the love of - their teachers, the fresh connections with peers forged through emerging technologies, and the supportive if crowded engagement with their families.

Our grandparents retold Pearl Harbor and our parents JFK's assassination, and we 9/11. Our children will retell to their children how we as the adults located our most profound virtues – what we have learned from our parents and teachers – and transformed broad anxiety and deep uncertainty into limitless compassion and perpetual generosity. Together, we will craft the Myth of our Enduring Goodness.

Thank you for your trust in us.

Stay safe, healthy and hopeful,
/s/ Seth Linfield
Head of School