



March 13th, 2020

Dear GVP Friends & Community Members,

As you likely know, this week the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 an [official pandemic](#), and many local schools suspended classes, field trips, and events. Global Village Project generally follows the calendar and guidelines of the Dekalb County School District. Therefore, I am writing to share that:

- GVP family-school conferences scheduled for Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> have been canceled.
- GVP will suspend all classes and events as of **Tuesday, March 17, 2020**.
- GVP students will return to school on Monday, March 16 for a half-day of classes. During this time, students will be instructed on work to be done at home while school is closed and will be given all of the supplies needed to complete this work. Students will be given iPads to use for schoolwork and thermometers for their families' wellness.
- Our school will remain closed until further notice.
- With an understanding of our families' food needs, we are exploring options for food access through Dekalb County Schools and our current Snack in a Backpack program.
- We will remain connected with families and our community via email, social media, and phone and will be sure to keep you informed as plans change.

While public and private organizations have responded to COVID-19 in a variety of ways, slowing the spread of the virus has been central to these decisions. A great deal has been written about the virus over the last several months, and social distancing has become a widely accepted approach for attempting to prevent the illness from spreading so fast that it overwhelms our hospitals and other health or community organizations. While there is no shortage of opinions on how to deal with this crisis, we believe that community-wide social distancing is prudent. We also believe our actions are in alignment with other CDC guidelines to minimize large gatherings and use teleworking technologies where possible.

Our school staff will be working in a variety of different ways to support students and families during the next few weeks. Our office team will be available if you need to reach out or set up an appointment: please refer to the [team directory](#) on our website. Please also be aware that April 6-10 are regularly scheduled days off, when the office is closed for Spring Break.

We are deeply grateful for your patience and flexibility in this time and thank you for your ongoing support for our school and students.

With much appreciation,

Dr. Amy Pelissero