

**March 16, 2020**

To our Jewish Day School Family,

These past weeks, the impact of coronavirus has tested our community and people around the world. Many cities and provinces have been taking unprecedented measures to 'flatten the curve' and stop the spread of this virus. Our focus at this time must be to keep our students, staff, and our most vulnerable community members safe.

As you know, we have been consulting with the BC Ministry of Education and the Public Health Officer over the past several days. With support from the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver, and in alignment with many institutions across the Lower Mainland, our Jewish Day Schools will be transitioning to remote learning in order to follow the recommendation of "social distancing."

**Although we await final confirmation from the Ministry of Education for this transition, we ask families to begin planning for this eventuality. We will follow up with a brief email once the Ministry indicates its support for this plan.**

Schools will individually communicate distance learning plans in the coming days. This is a temporary measure which will be in place **through March 27, 2020**, to coincide with the end of spring break for public schools and the majority of independent schools. Of course, this date may change pending announcements made by the Ministry of Health and Education in the coming days. We will revisit the developing details over the next two weeks and inform our communities of next steps closer to March 27th. Together with Jewish Federation, we will be doing everything possible to support our families during this time as we understand that there are many challenges that lie ahead.

We deeply appreciate and thank you for your understanding of the importance of making this decision. We wish your families health and *refuah shlemah* to those who must deal with the impact of illness at this time.

Your Heads of School,

Russ Klein, King David High School  
Ronit Amihude, Richmond Jewish Day School  
Meira Federgrun, Shalhevet Girls High School  
Rabbi Don Pacht, Vancouver Hebrew Academy  
Emily Greenberg, Vancouver Talmud Torah