



August 14, 2020

Dear Black River Community,

In this time of constant change due to the pandemic we, the Black River community, must also be agile and able to change course. Since last Wednesday when our Board adopted our very detailed plan for school this fall, there have been new developments that greatly affect our staff and our ability to offer in-person instruction for our students to start the school year.

For this reason, Black River will begin this school year with remote learning for all students. This remote learning will begin on Monday, August 24, 2020 as originally planned and will go through our first marking period ending on Friday, October 16, 2020. This allows for the best transition for students academically and it is anticipated that parents will still have the option of choosing remote learning or returning their students to campus on Monday, October 19, 2020.

For our time of remote learning, parents and students can expect a plan that is much improved from the experience of this past spring. Our incredible staff has been working all summer on how to deliver our own Black River curriculum in a way that is both rigorous and manageable for our students and families. We will also continue to support our learners with devices as necessary to make sure that all students get what they need to be academically successful.

This is a difficult time and a difficult decision. Students not being able to return to campus to start our school year is a hardship for working families but protecting the health and safety of the Black River students, staff and community is of paramount importance while we continue the education of our students.

Thank you for understanding that this change is the best option for the health and welfare of our amazing and very special school.

We are BR,

A blue ink signature of Shannon Brunink, consisting of a stylized 'S' followed by 'Brunink'.

Shannon Brunink  
Head of School

A blue ink signature of Tom Pietri, consisting of a large, stylized 'T' followed by a horizontal line.

A blue ink signature of Tom Pietri, consisting of a complex, circular scribble followed by a horizontal line.

Tom Pietri  
President, Board of Trustees