



COTTING SCHOOL

A tradition of innovation and excellence since 1893

November 16, 2020

Dear Cotting Community;

Since March, our first priority in response to COVID-19 has been ensuring the health and safety of our students and the entire Cotting School community. Accordingly, with the Thanksgiving holiday fast approaching, we are compelled to make some revisions to our upcoming schedule. **Therefore, the week after Thanksgiving, Monday, November 30 - Friday, December 4, will now be a fully-remote week for all students. This includes the Cotting School day program and HOPEhouse.** By switching from hybrid to fully-remote for the week after Thanksgiving, we are providing time for families and staff to ensure that everyone in their home is healthy and symptom-free before students return to campus. We recognize that while this adjustment is consistent with many local school districts, it may create difficulty for some families. As such, all students will remotely follow their regular class schedule from home on the week of November 30, and their learning and school work will continue uninterrupted. On Monday, December 7, we will resume our current 4 day per week in-person schedule.

This schedule change is intended to preserve our in-person learning days as much as possible. Rest assured that moving to a fully-remote environment is the last thing we want to do; yet with COVID cases continuing to rise, we believe it is prudent to be prepared for this possibility. We will also implement this schedule change for the first week of January. **Please plan for Monday, January 4 – Friday, January 8 to also be a fully remote week so that we can come back after the holiday break with caution and care.** In-person classes will begin on Monday, January 11 in the New Year.

As your family makes plans for Thanksgiving, we remind you that we all must do our part to put the health and safety of our community first. While this schedule change does provide some breathing room between possible holiday exposures and the return to school, we hope it is not perceived as permission to violate Governor Baker's orders regarding gatherings. We know it's not easy to alter beloved family traditions, and we appreciate all that you are doing to help keep Cotting School safe.

Best wishes for a safe and joyous Thanksgiving,

Bridget Irish

Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

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