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March 14, 2020

WCHS Staff,

Together, the Board and the Administration has made a decision to keep our school open. We will all return to work on Monday, March 16, 2020. We continue to monitor and conduct risk analysis of the COVID-19 pandemic to make our decisions on next steps. At this point we still have zero reported or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our school community. We continue to take precautionary measures in accordance with NYC Department of Health, CDC and WHO. Our school was deep cleaned on March 12 and 13. Our goal is for everyone to be safe and healthy and at the same time provide our students access to quality education.

Should the NYC DOE decide to close schools, we will follow their recommendations. In that case, we will transition to distance learning for our students. Last Thursday and Friday was part of the preparation for our distance learning plan. We will continue to prepare in the next days and weeks in the case of school closure. You will receive information and expectations on what distance learning will look like once our plan is finalized.

Thank you for all your hard work and flexibility during the last few days. If you have any questions, please feel free to send questions and concerns to this email: covidconcerns@thewcs.org. Admin and Counsel will monitor and be responsive. We want to be attentive to your personal and professional needs. If you choose to take time off, please note that this will be considered Care Time. This policy is outlined in our Personnel Handbook. Please remember that at times like this independent charter schools can be nimble and intentional in making decisions that serve all of our constituents. This and all updates can be found on our website: www.thewcs.org/covid-19.

Thank you,
Lester Samson
Head of School