As many of you are aware, the situation with the Covid-19 virus has changed dramatically over the last several days. In many cases, the situation has seemed to change almost hourly. In previous emails, we have communicated to you general plans in the event of a school closure. We want to continue to keep you informed and assure you that there are many people working tirelessly to provide the very best response that we can provide during these times. **We spent the early morning hours today praying for your children and your families.** This can be an anxious time, but we are thankful that God has provided a firm anchor in Christ during this storm.

As the situation currently stands, Hickory Grove Baptist Church and Hickory Grove Christian School will heed the recommendation of state and local authorities and the governor who is **NOT currently recommending that schools close at this time,** but even with that guidance, we will continue to monitor that situation from our own context. Our church will suspend all church programs and events on-campus until at least March 23. Hickory Grove Baptist Church will live-stream a worship service for at least the next two Sundays. I encourage you to connect to this service if at all possible. You can find information for the church below.

- Coronavirus Church Information
- Watch Church Service
- A Word from our Pastor

Obviously, there are areas that we may not have explored, but generally, we feel prepared to handle not only the education in the event of a school closure, but we feel prepared to continue to provide spiritual guidance in the form of devotions and prayer requests, college and career counseling, support for "disconnectedness," encouragement in regards to physical activities, and numerous other school-day activities that are commonplace in a typical day if it becomes necessary to close.

We want students to feel as close to the school as they possibly can while spending their days at home. But, all of this requires a partnership between the school, church, and our families. With your consistent support for the possible new school process, I feel confident that our efforts will be rewarded with a seamless transition to the online environment.

**When will we make a decision?** Since the situation changes so quickly, we will put in place "triggers" to help us with that decision. These may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Decisions and guidance by the local and state health department and the Center for Disease Control
- Decisions made by surrounding school systems (private and public)
- Specific health concerns directly related to our school
- Directives from the Governor of North Carolina or from the President and Federal Government

You can follow the latest updates for the school at the link below. In the event of a school closure, your family will be able to find directions for online instruction through your child's

Google Classroom site, Moodle, or through the "Parent Online Resources" in Renweb. We will make that information available to you just as soon as it is available to us.

- School Covid-19 Updates
- A Word from our Athletic Director

Jimmie S. Quesnberg. J.

In closing, I am comforted that the Lord continually watches over us all, and it is my prayer that we will continue to draw closer to Him during this time. Throughout history, the church has shone the brightest when times were the toughest. A faithful response from Christians now will help others see why we continue to follow Him.

Sincerely,

Jimmie Quesinberry, Ed.D.