

April 2020

Dear New Shady Side Boarding students,

It is a genuine pleasure to welcome you to the Shady Side residential community for the 2020-2021 school year. In choosing to board and live at Shady Side, we will engage together in an important shared enterprise – that of living and learning together in a unique educational community.

Given the COVID-19 pandemic, we are all negotiating extraordinary challenges, no matter where we might call home. The absence of our residential life community on campus is the aspect of this new "distance learning" quarantine environment that is most difficult for many of us to get used to. In short, we all miss the daily interactions with our fellow campus residents and the awesome collection of students who hail from 13 different states and nine different countries around the globe. Fortunately, through technology, we are able to maintain the bonds of friendship and kinship that are the bedrock of our boarding community. I am very confident that when we are all able to be back together on campus we will be even more appreciative of our opportunity to be a part of this unique community - a community that you are now a part of!

At Shady Side, we strive to create and nurture an environment where each individual is free to be and become their most authentic self, led by our school's Guiding Principles of honesty, kindness, responsibility, respect and safety. Our campus is a place where boarding students can maximize the results of their efforts in the classroom and in co-curricular activities, all the while sharing their lives with peers and the adults who help make up the Residential Life team. On weekends, our 5-day boarders will go home to be with family and friends, while our 7-day group will share time together exploring all that the greater Pittsburgh area has to offer.

Our schedule for the start of our time together has NEW boarding students arriving on Sunday, August 30th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, with a meeting for parents of new boarders from 4:15 to 5:15 pm in the Benedum STudent Center of Rowe Hall. Following this meeting, parents of all new boarders are invited to dinner Sunday evening at 5:30 pm, and to stay for a meeting of all New Student Parents (day and boarding) from 7:00 to 8:30 pm. By mid-August you will hear from me again with more information about the upcoming school year. Do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions about student or residential life at Shady Side. On behalf of the entire Residential Life team, I wish you a safe, healthy, and restorative summer and I look forward to meeting you all in person in the fall!

Most sincerely,

Chad A. Green

Dean of Student & Residential Life

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