

March 18, 2020

Dear Exeter alumni and friends,

I wrote to you just last Friday to report on all the actions we had taken thus far to respond to the COVID-19 public health crisis. I write today to report that we have made the difficult but necessary decision to complete the school year on line.

With this decision comes sadness and loss for our students, particularly our seniors. We need to offer them our hope, support, and encouragement. When we welcome the class of 2020 into the alumni community this June, I hope they will quickly learn from you that their relationship with the Academy is lifelong, and in many ways just beginning.

Under normal circumstances, the 50th reunion class would be having dinner with the seniors a few weeks from now. But circumstances are not normal, and we have also made the difficult decision to postpone reunions scheduled for this May until September. You will hear more about this in the coming days and weeks from Morgan Dudley and her team in the Office of Institutional Advancement.

As schools and businesses close, travel plans are postponed, gatherings are cancelled, and we practice social distancing, we will come together in new and different ways. The bonds within the Exeter community are stronger than ever, and your expressions of support and acts of kindness fill us with gratitude, even as we face this public health crisis. Thank you.

We realize all of you are impacted by the public health crisis in your personal lives. We express our support and caring for each and every one of you. We also thank you for the leadership you are providing in your communities by supporting persons in need and caring for the most vulnerable.

Thank you for your understanding and support. We will communicate with you regularly, and look forward to hearing from you. Please reach out with your questions, your concerns and your ideas. And please stay well.

Sincerely yours,

William K. Rawson '71; P'08