



March 14, 2020

Phoenix Christian Family,

The safety of our students is our first priority.

Phoenix Christian is determining contingency plans as we closely monitor circumstances.

The Phoenix Christian Board of Trustees and Administration are in collective agreement to pause all extracurricular events for this week (March 14-22) in conjunction with Spring Break to re-evaluate the approach for the future after the Monday AIA directional meeting.

<https://www.azcentral.com/story/sports/high-school/2020/03/13/aia-decided-monday-remaining-spring-seasons/5043242002/>

The following communication was provided to our Coaches this morning:

We are continually evolving in this process. After discussions last night and this AM, the collective agreement of Phoenix Christian Board of Trustees and Administration is that we are suspending all extracurricular practices and events for the week of March 16-21 in conjunction with Spring Break. The future status of programs will be re-evaluated after Monday's AIA meeting. Administration will be sending out a communication to parents/families. Please keep in mind that this suspension of activity applies to use of PC facilities during spring break. The campus will be closed to all student-athlete/Coaching activity. I am open to your questions. Athletic Director Keith Baker will be communicating shortly with our scheduled game opponents for the week and the AIA.

The entire faculty and staff met yesterday (March 13) to develop contingency plans. We will be in full communication with you.

Our children are processing our engagement with the world. Difficult seasons provide unique opportunities to teach and raise our children.

I am inspired by another fellow administrator's encouragement . . .

Consider these elements as you engage with your children:

First, how are you processing? Have you invited God to guide your thoughts and emotions? Have you set your mind on God? Our children need our authentic thoughts and guidance.

My friend writes, "After we discussed [the illnesses] at the dinner table the other night, one of my daughters asked me outright: 'Daddy, are you afraid of the virus?' I told her no. She said 'OK then I am not. When you are afraid that makes me afraid. So if you're not then I am good.' Our children take their cues from us and they are very perceptive."

Second, tuck the Scriptures in your heart:

For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. Romans 8:6

...fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10

...for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. 2 Timothy 1:7

Third, take time to simply be with your children, listen to them, love them, and talk with them as guided by God's Spirit. Corporate family prayer is powerful.

We need our relationship with Him to guide our hearts and love for our children.

With prayer,

Jeff Blake, MaEd, MaSFL
Superintendent
Phoenix Christian Preparatory School

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JEFF BLAKE". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "JEFF" on top and "BLAKE" below it, both written in a single continuous stroke.