

Dear Boarding Students, Parents, and Guardians,

I hope that you and your family remain healthy and safe. As we prepare for the opening of the 2020-2021 school year Wyoming Seminary remains committed to its mission of providing an exceptional college-preparatory education while also supporting the health and safety of the Sem community. I write to you with an update on our plans for boarding.

We have watched the recent experiences of local colleges which have included several positive cases in their dormitories. This parallels the experiences of colleges and schools across the country many of whom have opened their dorms only to close them shortly thereafter. We do not wish to do this. New suggestions from the United States Coronavirus Task Force are also recommending that colleges and universities keep infected students on-campus to mitigate the spread and the risk to family members and their local hometown communities. We take very seriously our commitment to the 24-hour nature of serving as in loco parentis guardians responsible for the safety and the well-being of our boarders.

In order to ensure as safe as possible an environment for our boarders we feel we need more time to conduct an observation period of our population in September and October. During this time, we will engage in surveillance testing of our student body to gain a fuller picture of the presence of the virus in our community before moving in our boarders. After this observation period we will communicate a decision by Wednesday October 28th on next steps for our boarding program.

Our decision to reopen our dormitories will be based upon:

- Review of the status of the virus in the Seminary community to ensure there is not significant spread.
- Assurance that the community abides by general health practices in accordance with our opening plan guidelines.
- Our ability to engage in Covid surveillance testing within our population.
- Our assessment of the overall risk present on our campus.

With this extended, phased approach, boarding students already in the area will have the option to enroll as day students. If you are interested in this option please contact our admissions department.

During the 2020-21 academic year, boarding families will be issued a prorated room and board credit for the period students are not residing on campus. Credited amounts will be applied at the end of the trimester.

We have not taken this decision lightly. I recognize that our time together on campus as a global community is more important than ever. However, our highest priority is to safeguard the health and safety of our community.

Sincerely,

Kevin Rea
President
Wyoming Seminary
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