



March 13, 2020

Hello PIC Community,

I am writing with an update that as of the end of the day today, PIC will be closed through Friday, March 27, 2020.

In light of Governor Wolf's recent announcement closing all schools in Pennsylvania for the next two weeks, as well as the School District of Philadelphia's decision to close, PIC will also be closing for the next two weeks. This closure allows us to follow the state's public health lead in proactively practicing social distancing, as well as have time to implement a thorough deep cleaning throughout the entire Center.

[See Governor Wolf's announcement here.](#)

<https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/governor-wolf-announces-closure-of-pennsylvania-schools/>

During this closure, we are committed to paying part- and full- time staff members at their current salaries and continuing all of their benefits. In order to be in the financial position to do so, we are unable to refund any portion of March tuition.

In the event that a closure should go beyond two weeks, we will communicate any changes regarding plans as soon as possible. We will be closely monitoring the situation during the coming days and weeks. It is hard to anticipate all the repercussions of an extended closing at this point. Be assured, I will work closely with the PIC Board in making additional decisions.

We are also very aware of the accumulating effects of COVID-19 on all businesses and child care providers. Please read this [letter to Congress signed by the National Association for the Education of Young Children \(NAEYC\)](#) and many other organizations working with children and families. I encourage you to join the call for emergency funding for child care providers by reaching out to your representatives in Congress.

Please note that our Nature Playground will remain open during our closure and the community is welcome to enjoy it. While everyone will make their own choices during this time, I want families to be aware that recommendations have been made to keep children away from shared playground equipment, if possible.

I have been heartened to hear of the care that so many in our community are offering one another during this very troubling time, and hope that we continue to see the importance of extending care to all.

Thank you for believing in PIC,

Deb Green

Executive Director