



May 7, 2010

Dear St. George's Kindergarten Parents:

The past few days have been difficult for St. George's Kindergarten families, the St. George's Parish and the citizens of Nashville and Middle Tennessee. We hope that everyone is well and getting their lives back in order. Our prayers go out to those who have suffered and our gratitude goes out to an energetic and caring community. The early response at the school and church inspires great confidence for the future. Parents, faculty and parishioners have shown up in numbers to prepare our building for restoration. We are grateful for the outpouring of support and look forward to working with everyone to bring the Kindergarten back as the safe, joyful and inspiring place we all know and love.

In the days since the flood, the Kindergarten Board and Administration have considered matters related to the early closing of school and how best to move forward. Our first priorities are the restoration and preparation of the Kindergarten for the 2010-2011 school year and to provide closure for the children given the current situation. Faculty and volunteers are planning alternate sites and logistics for the much anticipated rites of spring: the Four Year Olds' Noah's Ark pageant and the Closing Celebration/Last Chapel Service. We hope the children and parents enjoy these celebrations as if they were in Hampton Hall and the St. George's Chapel.

The official last day of the 2009-2010 school year was Friday, April 30, 2010. The facility is unusable following the extensive and unprecedented flood damage sustained on the morning of May 2, 2010. Due to the proximity to the end of the scheduled school year, it is the opinion of the Board and Administration that the school year was substantially complete on April 30.

The Board has made the decision to continue to pay the faculty for the remainder of the scheduled school year. Faculty members have always been the Kindergarten's defining attribute, and the decision to pay them reflects their efforts toward restoring the Kindergarten and our deep appreciation for years of service and dedication to our mission. More than 80% of tuition and extended day revenue covers salaries for our faculty and administration. Additionally, most of the supplies and facilities maintenance to support our program services in May were already purchased and destroyed in the flood. Most of our administrative expenses will continue or increase.

While we fully recognize the inconvenience and disappointment resulting from the early closing of school, the Board has decided that it is not in a position to make any reimbursement for the remaining 14 cancelled school days.

Finally, we have decided to cancel all scheduled Dragon Camp sessions in order to focus on preparation for the 2010-2011 school year. Many of you have already paid tuition. You will receive a full refund for camp sessions. We will send checks as soon as our business office reopens.

Thank you for your patience and assistance as we enter the process of rebuilding. We look forward to seeing many of you back in our halls and on our playgrounds next fall. For those going on to "big school," we wish you well in all of your pursuits.

Sincerely,

Miles Kirkland
Kindergarten Board Treasurer

Laura Mason
Kindergarten Board President