



March 22, 2020

Dear Friends and Supporters of Horizon High School:

This is not the letter which I had drafted and was on the verge of sending out 10 days ago. The world has changed drastically over these past 10 days. Ten days ago, we would have been inviting you to help us celebrate our great success in having provided over 15 years of service to over 150 young people in their struggles against alcohol and drug addiction. We had set up a celebration to happen April 29th at the Madison Club, with Dr. Richard Davidson as our featured speaker. And at the same time as celebrating the past 15 years, we would have been asking you to continue your financial support, so that we could continue into our 16th year...and onward.

Over a year ago, we decided we had gotten to the point, with a strong board of 9 people, to set up an small executive committee (president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary) to meet periodically as the case warranted. Well, this certainly is one of those cases, and the four of us just meet for an hour on a phone conference call with Traci Goll, the Director, to map out how we go to safety proceed with our mission. Traci and her staff had already shut down the normal operation this past week and began operating in crisis mode. Six students (and families) were identified as needing food and supplies; Darby and Gavin (special ed assistants) and Traci got food and delivered (leaving on porches), and they (with an east side social worker) moved our homeless student into an empty apartment and provided furniture and supplies.

Traci and staff has been developing plans to go online for the school's educational mission including daily personal contacts between staff and students. Five students without technology for access to the internet will be lent Chromebooks; the other 7 students have home access already. Traci has been in contact with MMSD and we are confident that that source of funding for Horizon (38% of our annual revenue) should not be cut; she has so far not been able to hear anything from CCS (Comprehensive Community Services, funded by Medicaid thru Dane County Dept of Human Services) which supports counseling for a small number (2 currently) of our students (~10% of our annual revenue). 45-50% of our funding (over \$100,000) comes from our network of community supporters – YOU!

We know these are very uncertain times, and many people may be wondering about their own financial well being, but all we can do at Horizon is to take it one day at a time, week by week, month by month, keeping the school functioning for the sake of our kids. At this point, we plan to continue school operation for the foreseeable future, and at this point in time, we would be coming to you, asking for support for summer school and beyond -- we DO plan to be operating summer school and continue operation into the 2020-2021 school year.

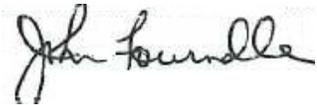
We have had staff ask us about whether they will continue to be paid, and our response

has been, yes, we will continue to pay staff for all the work they do during these difficult times -- via daily phone checkins for example -- provided we have the funds to pay them. We have a small reserve, but that could be quickly depleted if we do not bring in funds now, says Ken Klinzing our treasurer.

We would like to be able to predict that we will be able to schedule -- and invite you to -- our 15th Anniversary Celebration, sometime in the Fall of 2020. But that is unrealistic at this point in time.

We need to stand by our commitments to our young people and keep Horizon High School functioning in a new mode; we are learning how to do this day by day. And we ask your continued financial support, to the best of your ability. And an anonymous donor has stepped up and will match up to \$10,000 in donations.

Stay safe, stay sane.



John Fournelle
President, HHS Board

P.S. If you are able to provide a financial contribution, and you use the internet, remember that our website has a PayPal button and you can easily contribute thusly -- and you do not need to have a PayPal account, you simply use a debit or a credit card.

I would like to support Horizon High School:

__\$10,000 __\$5000 __\$2500 __\$1000 __\$500 __\$250 __\$100 __other

Name _____

Address _____

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Horizon High School is a 501(c)(3) organization and
all contributions are fully tax deductible
Horizon High School, P.O. Box 45045, Madison, WI 53744
www.horizonhs.org (608) 442-0935

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