

Dear Lochearn Families,

June 1, 2020

We are writing today with heavy hearts, and an update that you may have anticipated, even as you hoped it would not come: Lochearn will not be opening for the summer of 2020. The decision of whether to open this summer has been driven by our commitment to our community's wellbeing and safety. Over the past few weeks, we have evaluated several options to be able to provide a safe and meaningful camp experience this summer during a pandemic surrounded by so many unknowns.

After weighing the risks and considering the everchanging guidance coming from the American Camp Association, the CDC, and the State of Vermont, we whole-heartedly believe we are making the right decision to ensure the health and safety of our camp families and staff this summer.

This was the hardest decision we have ever had to make as camp directors. We know this news is equally, if not more, devastating to our campers who have been eagerly looking forward to camp all year. As both directors and parents, the thought of not having camp in the midst of everything our campers have dealt with during this crisis is unfathomable. We know our children need summer camp more than ever.

When we envision camp under the federal and state guidelines currently being presented to us, there are two things we will not compromise: Safety and Quality.

You placed an incredible amount of faith and trust in us when you chose Lochearn for your daughter. You have trusted us to provide a safe and comfortable home in a carefree environment where campers can thrive, both individually and amongst peers. With so much uncertainty and fluidity surrounding COVID-19, we have the confidence in knowing that cancelling our 2020 sessions is the right decision to ensure the safety of our campers and staff and maintain the long history of quality camping at Lochearn.

Our 2020 CTs will be welcome back in 2021 for their final summer. We will give them an opportunity to have the experience they deserve and have looked forward to throughout their time as Lochearn campers. We want to assure our 8th graders that their 2021 experience will not be affected. We look forward to giving both groups their best summer ever!

This has been a difficult time, but we know that we have made the right decision for our campers and staff. We look ahead with open minds and optimism as we are already in the planning stages to make next summer at Lochearn the best in its 105-year history!

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Positively,

Tony & Stacie

Tony and Stacie Oyenarte
Directors, Camp Lochearn