April 19, 2020

Good Evening K8 Families:

It was a beautiful day outside, so I hope you each had a chance to get some fresh air and participate in outside activities! I know that I had a chance to go on a walk and bike ride today to enjoy the weather.

I'm sending you an update with important information regarding our Remote Learning Initiative and upcoming happenings between now and the end of the year.

**Weekly Schedule Adjustments:**
We've made some small adjustments to the weekly schedule for students. You will notice that we have reduced the time for drop-in help sessions to 45 minutes. This will help us ensure that teachers have time to work with small groups and individuals to support understanding the material. This means that students may be asked by teachers to join them online for some small group live instruction and learning. We have also adjusted the time of day for some of our drop-in sessions to allow for more flexibility in gaining support from all teachers. All core subject areas now have a morning and afternoon drop-in help session during the week. You can see an updated schedule on our Remote Learning Webpage and also by clicking here.

We appreciate those of you that provided feedback and have communicated throughout this process. Please know that we are continuously making adjustments as needed and working to simplify communications and plans for student learning. We hope that you continue to see these adjustments as reflective of your suggestions and beneficial for our students' learning!

**End of Year Celebration and Wrap Up:**
There are many questions surrounding end of year activities, Q4 grades, and picking up personal items that were left in school. The faculty is working to develop clear plans for each of these. We anticipate having a plan for the celebration of our Kindergarten and 8th grade students accomplishments to share next week. Recognizing that some events were left unfinished, we plan to review any payments already made for K8 events for reimbursement as soon as we are able to return to the building. This is also in line with how we will address students retrieving their personal items. We are currently working on a plan for when we are able to return to the building safely. As we have clear decisions in these areas, we will let you know - and until then we will be patient and follow the stay-at-home orders.

**Attendance and Grading:**
We are also working on how best to assess our students at this time. There is much discussion on this topic. As a school, we will be counting these days of remote learning and therefore documenting student completion and performance. Completion of work indicates the student was in attendance for the day, and we will be looking to ensure every student has turned something in each day to show
their participation in Remote Learning. In addition to completion, teachers will be assessing the work to understand student’s progress. Those assessments will make up the Q4 grades. These grades will be entered into Powerschool within the next 2 weeks. Further decisions around attendance and grading will be communicated in the upcoming weeks.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, you can reach out to me. If you have any issues, need support, or want to share a thought, you can always fill out the Help Ticket and someone will get back to you.

Thanks for your continued patience and partnership in this new way of learning!

Ms. Woolf Cohen
K8 Principal