Jahmal Mosley, Ed. D. Superintendent

Donna Fitzpatrick, Ed. S. Assistant Superintendent



Garth J. McKinney, Ed. D. Assistant Superintendent

Daniel Donovan
Chief Operating Officer

April 19, 2020

Dear parents and guardians,

I hope this letter finds you well and thank you for your patience, understanding, and flexibility during remote instruction. I'm writing to provide a few updates on some important areas during remote instruction.

- Remote Instruction
 - Since the Governor's directive to implement remote instruction, we have been working diligently to
 establish our practices and make adjustments as necessary. To assist us with this effort, please take a
 moment to complete this nine question Google Form and provide feedback from your
 perspective/experience https://forms.gle/Xqb2CgJ9AP4Vdnab8
- Grading & assessment
 - Please understand that teachers have been advised to continue to provide detailed feedback to students on their performance during the third trimester by utilizing comments and focus on learning. Given the pandemic, stress will negatively impact student academic performance along with various inequities, thus the need to be explicit with feedback, comments, and celebrate progress. Questions and/or concerns regarding grading and assessment should be first addressed with your child's teacher then the school administration as necessary.
- Progress reports (March 20-May 7)
 - Third trimester progress reports scheduled for the third trimester will not be issued and distributed, but similar reporting will be sent out in June.
- Report cards
 - Second Trimester (January-March 2020)
 - Classroom and Unified Arts (Art, Music, Physical Education, and Library) teachers have worked to complete report cards for the second trimester based on student performance before remote instruction. Trimester reports have also been completed by Math Interventionists, Title 1 Teachers, and Reading Specialists as well as progress reports by Special Educators. English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Teachers have contacted families and collaborated with grade level teachers.
 - Third Trimester (March-June 2020)
 - Grade level teachers (K-5) will complete report cards for the third trimester based on student performance during remote instruction. Unified Arts teachers will acknowledge student participation and exemplary work. All teachers will provide detailed feedback to students on their performance during the third trimester by utilizing comments and focus on learning. Questions and/or concerns regarding your child's performance should be first addressed with your child's teacher then the school administration as necessary.
 - Distribution
 - Typically report cards are sent home with students in envelopes for parent/guardian signature and then returned to school. We are working to determine how and when to distribute report cards to parents and students during remote instruction. Once this determination has been made, we will share the information with you. In the meantime, questions and/or concerns regarding your child's academic performance should be first addressed with your child's teacher then the school administration as necessary.

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- Parent/guardian feedback
 - Beginning in October 2019, grade level teacher teams have been collaborating to redesign the elementary report card as we transition to competency based grading. As a part of this process, I encourage parents to complete this six question survey to provide feedback -https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LC3PZF6

Thank you again for supporting our efforts to implement remote instruction. As a parent and educator, I understand the challenges of both working from home and coordinating remote learning for children. While challenging, please join me in thanking our teachers who have done amazing work. Thanks again and be well.

Sincerely,

Garth J. McKinney, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education