

Dear Middle School Parents/Guardians:

What an unbelievably crazy and remarkable event we are all experiencing--years from now when kids open up the history books they will be reading about the year 2020. We plan to make this time as educational and supportive as possible for your child. We will certainly miss being with them on a regular basis, yet we also hope that they will use this opportunity to hone and develop excellent independent work habits and perseverance. Luckily, technology allows us to continue our school year despite the dramatic changes our society is experiencing; however, if the technology is used improperly, the opportunity for growth will be compromised. We all spoke with the kids about academic honesty on Friday. We ask that you please reinforce the importance of using technology appropriately so that YOUR/EACH child is reaping the benefit of the lessons and skills being presented and not just sharing work with friends.

This will be a new experience for all of us, but also a great learning exercise. Since today's students have the opportunity to further their education and obtain degrees using an online platform this is a fantastic springboard!

Communication: If at any time you or your student(s) have questions or concerns, please email the teacher directly. (see below). Throughout the normal school day hours we will be actively engaged in student learning-- monitoring emails, guiding discussions when appropriate, grading and commenting on student work while curating materials and continuing to teach our students. **Students are encouraged to ask questions and post or email as needed to communicate.**

Schedule: It will likely be helpful for students to follow a normal schedule each day--wake up, follow their normal morning routine, and then log on to Google Classroom and check email. Students should then generally follow their normal school schedule while completing classwork. Sticking with one subject at a time will help students stay focused and on task!

Coursework: As in our normal classrooms, each subject and teachers' methods will look different. Assignments will be posted each day by 9:00 A.M. in each core subject's Google Classroom. These assignments may be strictly through the links and content provided online, based in students' textbooks, or a mixture of the two. As a team, the middle school teachers are dedicated to keeping very familiar routines and expectations that have been in place throughout the school year.

Organization: Currently, many middle school teachers ask students to take notes, keep binders, and keep their materials organized. Students are strongly encouraged to maintain these practices. Staying organized will help students maintain academic success, but also facilitate an easy return to school.

Deadlines & Grading: According to the school policy, all learning goals and assignments will be posted by 9:00 A.M. on Google Classroom. Unless otherwise noted, assignments will be due by 9:00 A.M. the next morning to receive full credit as per the middle school team policy. Many of us are planning larger activities and projects that students will have more than 24 hours to complete. Individual assignments will have due dates clearly communicated if they differ from the general 9:00 A.M. due date. Grades and comments will be sent back to individual student accounts and posted in OptionC as normal. Assignments should be turned in through the Google Classroom or emailed directly to the teacher. This may require students to take a picture of their work (especially for math!)

Differentiated Curriculum: Academic success looks different for each student. To maintain support and ensure that each of our students has the best opportunity for success, your student's assignment may look different than a neighbors'. Please know that we are working to provide exactly what each student needs and meeting expectations set in MTSS and Growth Plans.

We thank you in advance for your continued support and patience!

Miss Barlow,
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Miss Guerriero,
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6th Blue Math

Mrs. Karasack,
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6th Yellow Math,
7th ELA, and 8th ELA

Mrs. Kelly,
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6th ELA

Mrs. McHugh,
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6th-8th Science

Mrs. Wolf,
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7th PreAlgebra,
7th & 8th Algebra,
8th Geometry