

March 18, 2020

Dear Day Families,

I know that you have just received quite a bit of information from Superintendent Fleishman about what student learning will look like until April 6th for our students. The overarching idea is to offer our families consistent connections with our community as a social emotional support and to create standards- based academic enrichment opportunities by grade and content. I thought it would be helpful to share with you what that will look like at Day.

You can expect:

- Your child's team teachers will be in touch once a week through email or video in order to stay connected with your child and inform you how they will be sharing enrichment activities (e.g. Schoology, web sites or other virtual resources)
- Team teachers will share with your child enrichment activities for that week. The enrichment activities will be standards-based grade level content activities that may review material already learned and deepen understanding. They will not serve to teach new content and will not be used as assessment toward term grades.
- In addition to the enrichment activities shared by teachers, NPS has created online resources called "NPS Learning from Home" that can be found by following the link below:

<https://sites.google.com/newton.k12.ma.us/chooseyourowneconomicadvent/home>

- Guidance counselors will be available to connect families with community resources and offer social emotional support. They are also a resource for questions about connecting with teachers.
- Special Education Liaisons will be in touch weekly to ensure that students on their caseload have access to enrichment activities and to support students' social emotional needs through virtual connections.
- The Day Administration will be available to respond to parent inquiries. The best way to reach the Day Admin Team is via email, which we will be checking daily.
- All Day Faculty will be checking emails daily.

- A weekly email or video from me as well as daily Twitter postings @JMannNPS in an effort to maintain our strong community connections.

Finally, we thought it might be helpful if you had a “who to ask for what” check list over the next few weeks:

Who do I ask if.....

- I have a general question about school - Mrs. Mann - Day Principal:
mannj@newton.k12.ma.us
- I am worried about my child’s social emotional needs: guidance counselors or school psychologists at the emails below:
- 6th Grade: Jim Thompson thompsonj@newton.k12.ma.us or Molly Bryant:
bryantb@newton.k12.ma.us
- 7th grade: Sandy Calabro calabros@newton.k12.ma.us , Meghan Burke
brukem@newton.k12.ma.us or Dan Dewees deweese@newton.k12.ma.us
- 8th grade: Jennifer Murphy (Fiske) murphyf@newton.k12.ma.us or Betty Bernier
bernierbe@newton.k12.ma.us
- School Psychologists: HUDSONM@newton.k12.ma.us or VOLANTEE@newton.k12.ma.us
- BRIDGE clinician: collinsc@newton.k12.ma.us
- I have am worried about my child’s health: Contact Ruth Hoshino at
hoshinor@newton.k12.ma.us
- I have a question about my student’s learning: Contact your child’s team teacher
- My child is on a 504 or IEP and I have a question about their needs or questions about special education services: Contact Mike Thurm at thurmm@newton.k12.ma.us

By far the most important way to support our middle school students during this time is to keep routines and continue to offer virtual connections. As a reminder, as difficult it is to reinforce when your middle school child is longing for social connections with friends, it is important that we follow the advice of our public health officials in not allowing our students to participate in gatherings over the next few weeks. With everyone’s cooperation, my hope is that we can lessen the time away from school, and our goal is to get everyone back in school and in their routines as soon as possible.

So I will continue to work with our faculty and Admin Team as well as our PTO on ways to keep our Day Community connected virtually. I will be sharing resources on Twitter: @JMannNPS and over the next week, work with our PTO on beginning a virtual book chat of *Middle School Matters* by Day graduate, Phyllis Fagell. Stay tuned for more information.

My thoughts are with you all in this challenging time. I am one email away, so please do not hesitate to reach out.

All the best,

Jackie Mann

F.A. Day Principal

mannj@newton.k12.ma.us