

March 16, 2020

Dear 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Families,

**"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination." -Jimmy Dean**

We hope this letter finds you all well during these historical and challenging times. Your 5<sup>th</sup> grade team has been working together to provide the best options for fulfilling our educational commitment while ensuring the health and safety of our students and families. On **Schoology**, students have been added to a new course "5<sup>th</sup> Grade E-Learning" which will house specific materials with daily assignments and links to other educational resources for this remote learning experience. You can find links to the online programs on the district webpage and students can use **Classlink** to log on. If you have any trouble, feel free to reach out!

To make this time as productive as possible, we encourage you to maintain a routine for your children at home. This will make the uncertain timeframe of our school closures and transition back into the classroom as seamless as possible. On Schoology, you will find a folder for each day's work. In that folder is an outline for a daily schedule to follow. We understand each family will need to adjust this schedule based on your needs, but we encourage you to follow a schedule Monday-Friday. We expect our 5<sup>th</sup> graders to be able to complete their work independently and manage their own day. This will be great practice in building independent study habits for their transition to Middle School in a few short months! For your reference, a summary of our daily expectations are as follows:

**Reading/ELA-** Students should be spending about 90 minutes on reading activities each day. You will see in the daily schedule, there is a 30 min. block for assignments, 30 min. for iReady reading, and 30 min. for independent reading. They can also check their Mushers in the Iditarod race! They should contribute to the discussion on Schoology!

**Math-** 60 minutes a day should be devoted to math practice, 30 min. for assigned review practice and 30 min for iReady lessons. You will find the link to iReady in Schoology.

**Content (Science, Social Studies, Writing)-** In **Schoology**, you will find the content specific material organized according to the colors of their folders they use in school for each subject. They should be working for about 60 min. daily on Science, Social Studies, and Writing activities at this time. Each assignment should only take 20-30 minutes to complete.

We cannot thank you enough for your continued support and flexibility during these times. Although we appreciate you enforcing academic expectations at home, we don't want you forget to spend quality time together as well. Play some board games, do puzzles, play charades, and just enjoy each other's company! Stay calm, get plenty of rest, and make the best of these unique times in our history.

Remember, you can get in touch with us through email and through the messaging feature on Schoology. Students are welcome to use that feature independently with questions or just to say "Hi"! Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, concerns, or feedback; we are all available to you!

All the best,

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