



November 6, 2020

Dear RPSA Families,

All students, both In School and Distance Learners, have successfully completed our fall round of assessments. Specifically we are required to administer the NWEA standardized assessment and provide those results to any parent or guardian who is interested in reviewing their child's results. For several years we have not distributed paper copies of assessment results to families for a specific reason.

At RPSA, we value the whole child and do not believe that our students are defined by single assessments or tests that rank students solely in narrow categories. We study deeply the results of these assessments and take them into consideration as we plan for individual student needs. We use the results to drive instruction and make schoolwide decisions. We know this data well.

Where we are different from many other schools is in the fact that the data from NWEA paints part of the picture, not the whole picture. If you are interested in reviewing your child's NWEA we would be happy to provide them to you in the hopes that it leads to deeper understanding for you about the role such assessments play in shaping your child's learning journey. You can contact your child's teacher through Seesaw if you would like more information.

### **THE LATEST SURVEY RESULTS**

Our last family survey was meant to gauge interest in having Distance Learning students return to In School learning in January. With the constantly changing aspects of the pandemic, we hope to stay informed of the needs of families and shape learning experiences that meet their needs. With 161 of our close to 210 Distance Learning students represented, we learned that 125 of our Distance Learning students would wish to remain in a Distance Learning setting and 36 would choose to return in January if circumstances allowed for their return. A commitment from Distance Learning families will be officially gathered in late November with hopes to offer In School options to more students beginning in January.

### **NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS NEXT WEDNESDAY, 11/11/20**

Next Wednesday, November 11 is scheduled as a professional development day for staff. As a result, there will not be live, virtual sessions for students. Your child's teacher may send home learning activities, but families should not plan to log into meetings or direct instruction next Wednesday. Our staff will be using this time to further our understanding of effective feedback practices as we begin to work on our first round of progress reports for the school year.

### **STUDENT LED CONFERENCES ARE COMING UP**

The week of December 7-11 we will be holding Student Led Conferences (SLC). As a result, Wednesday, December 9 will be a day dedicated to SLC's. Again on 12/9 there will be no live meetings or direct instruction that day. Families will have the opportunity to schedule their student's SLC either in person or virtually directly with the teacher. There will not be a schoolwide sign up process this year. It is essential that the student be present for the Student Led Conference since the conference is just that, **led by the student**.

### **A FEW IMPORTANT DATES AND THINGS TO NOTE**

- In case you missed it. The [Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation offerings](#) were published earlier this month. The deadline is today, but we wanted to be sure all of our families had a last minute opportunity to sign up.
- It's time to order new RAMS wear. Please return [the order form](#) by November 17th.
- School picture day was 11/5. If you missed it, we will have a picture day make up date in December.