




Wednesday, December 2, 2020

Dear RPSA Families,


I want to begin this week's letter with a couple of SHOUT OUTS to our school community. Earlier today someone compared life right now being like a game of darts. And once you throw the dart, the dart board gets moved. In the face of daily uncertainty our students continue to show up to learn. We know that is only possible because of the support of families. So to all of the adults working to support our students, we say thank you. We can't do our jobs without our students showing up.

My second shout out is to the RPSA staff. Our teachers continue to shine in the face of constant change. They are doing all they can to provide learning opportunities and remain connected with students in some pretty creative ways. I want to take this opportunity to thank them for their willingness to not only keep going, but go the extra mile. It makes my job so rewarding to work with them each day.



RPSA Library Curbside Pickup

Wednesdays 9:00am - 2:00pm



Mrs. Doyle is very excited to offer students a chance to check out books from the library each Wednesday. We have new procedures in place in order to keep everyone safe and healthy, while still keeping books in students' hands!

Please follow these steps to get books from the RPSA library:

- Please fill out [THIS FORM](#) to request books.
- On Wednesdays from 9:00-2:00, come to the sidewalk by the parking lot in front of the school's main doors to pick up your books.
- Books will be available in bags labeled with the student's name.
- Bags with books will be placed in totes labeled in alphabetical order by last name.
- If students would like help picking out books, Mrs. Doyle will be available by logging into Google Meet using the nickname "library" on Wednesdays from 9:00-2:00.
- If you are unable to pick up books on Wednesdays, but would still like books from the library, please contact Ms. Tina in the office at 989-773-9889 to arrange another time.

Mrs. Doyle is looking forward to seeing you!
Happy Reading!

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES ARE NEXT WEEK

Our schoolwide goal is to hold a student led conference with 100% of our students by the end of next week. We need everyone's support to pull this off and meet our goal. Please look for and reply to communication from your child's teacher to set up a video conference for your child. Remember, a student led conference is just that. It is a conference led by the student to allow the student to share their learning with the adults in their life. Adults are the audience and students are the presenters. At RPSA we value STUDENT VOICE and student led conferences offer students that opportunity.

PROGRESS REPORTS

First marking period progress reports will be emailed to parents on Monday, December 7. Paper copies will not be printed, but can be requested. If you typically receive the school newsletter in your email inbox, you can expect to receive the progress report on Monday. If you do not receive the newsletter via email, please call Ms. Tina in the school office at (989) 773-9889 to update your email address.

OUR SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKS AHEAD

Week Of	Expectations
November 30 - December 4 Distance Learning for all students K-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Five full days of student learning. Participation is required and attendance is taken every day based on work completion and Google Meet participation.
December 7 - December 11 Distance Learning for all students K-8 Student Led Conferences Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri are four, full student learning days. Participation is required and attendance is taken every day based on work completion and Google Meet participation.• Wednesday, 12/9 is a non-student day dedicated to virtual Student Led Conferences (SLC) between individual students, their parents/guardians and teachers. SLC's will be scheduled with the classroom teacher through Seesaw communication.
December 14 - December 18 Distance Learning for all students K-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Five full days of student learning. Participation is required and attendance is taken every day based on work completion and Google Meet participation.
December 21 - January 1	Winter Break - No School for two full weeks
January 4 - January 8 Distance Learning for all students K-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Five full days of student learning. Participation is required and attendance is taken every day based on work completion and Google Meet participation.
January 11 Anticipated return to In School learning for students who choose to return to learning at the school building.	Families will be given the opportunity to select to return to In School learning or opt to remain in Distance Learning through a survey in mid December.

WE MUST STRESS THAT ATTENDANCE IN GOOGLE MEETS AND WORK COMPLETION IS NOT OPTIONAL DURING THIS BUILDING CLOSURE. Students must attend Morning Meetings, small group learning sessions, one-on-one meetings and complete all required school work shared through Seesaw and/or Google Classroom. Last school year our focus was on maintaining connections and ensuring the safety and well being of students. This year we assume those expectations AND daily attendance, the rigor of daily learning as well as work completion. We cannot stress enough that this time is not optional. If your child becomes ill and cannot participate you must communicate that to the teacher and the office at 989-773-9889. **If you need help or support of any kind, please reach out to us.**

TECHNOLOGY NEEDS

Each student will be assigned a chromebook and a charge cord. This technology is to be used for learning and must be returned in working order to the school when we reopen the school building. Technology questions, including repairs or replacements should be directed to the classroom teacher who will communicate appropriate steps to take.

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL NEEDS

In cases where your child needs immediate assistance or the matter is confidential, we have set up a phone line specifically to meet those needs. You may contact Mrs. Anderson, our Dean of Students and School Social Worker, by leaving a detailed message at 989-492-8328. Mrs. Anderson will return your call as soon as possible.

NUTRITIONAL NEEDS

Weekly food distribution will take place every Monday from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. and again from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. We will offer contactless, curbside pick up at the front of the school. Simply come between either of the stated times each week and pick up a week's worth of food for every student in your family. If you have special needs or are seeking additional nutritional support, do not hesitate to call the school office 989-773-9889 week days between 9:00am and 3:00pm. We are ready to support our families to ensure our students are warm and fed so they can learn.

As always, we deeply appreciate your partnership with us on this long and stressful journey. We are honored to be serving as the guides for your child's learning. We are taking these precautions now so we can return to the days of 450 students learning and growing under one roof. Until that time, please know we are here for your family.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Lisa Bergman
Executive Director, RPSA