

Dear families:

I hope this message finds you well. Thank you for all the things you're doing to help alleviate the anxiety of your children and to keep them, and yourselves, safe.

As you know, the global health crisis has continued to escalate as we moved from a regional, to a statewide, and now to a national emergency. This unprecedented school closure has generated a number of questions and complications around providing traditional school services to our community.

LWSD's goal is to use our schools to provide stability and resources to the community during this time, and as you may have seen in last week's LWSD communication, we are developing plans to make sure that students have meals, families have child care, and students have access to learning.

However, the reality is that we cannot continue to "do school" in the way that many of you may have been anticipating. There are specific requirements issued by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) with which districts must comply to ensure that *all* students can be served appropriately. If we cannot satisfy those requirements, we cannot continue moving forward through the curriculum. ***During this time of extended closure, teachers will not be continuing to teach their course material.*** We are essentially "pressing pause" on the curriculum where we left off on Wednesday, March 11th, with a plan to resume when school is back in session.

In the meantime, our goal is to create learning materials and activities that can help students do the following things:

- Review material that they may have already covered, but not yet mastered.
- Practice skills that are necessary for learning and proficiency in a particular subject.
- Engage in enrichment activities or independent projects in a particular subject area.
- Identify an area of interest in a subject area to research and explore.

Given our current restrictions, these learning activities are not required, nor will they be graded.

These learning opportunities are supplemental and designed to keep students connected with their teachers, the content, and the skills they need to resume school successfully. They are not meant to replace our core curriculum and instruction.

This approach is aligned with OSPI's guidelines and recommendations and with what our neighboring districts are doing.

At our three campus schools, we have students who are planning for high school graduation and college, hoping for a placement in 7th grade algebra, and elementary age students working on foundational literacy skills. We understand that this "pause in curriculum" may impact their learning, however, we are not alone in these challenges and will work through them.

Teachers spent much of the day Friday planning for these extended learning experiences. As we move forward, teachers will continue to work to create activities and resources that will be posted to each teacher's PowerSchool Learning page. If teachers use OneNote with their classes, the link to the class OneNote will be available on the PowerSchool Learning page for quick access. Teachers will also be available via LWSD email, and it is possible that hardcopies of some activities can be picked up or mailed home. We'll know more in the coming days.

We are committed to serving students and helping them get the best education possible. We miss you, but know we will see you soon!

Sincerely,

Nell & Catherine

Nell Ballard-Jones, Principal

Emerson Campus Schools