

Fremont Public Schools

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Dear Families.

It is amazing the difference that a month can make. Just four short weeks ago many of us were looking forward to a break from the busy lives we lead. Some had vacations planned. Others were just looking forward to some time at home with our families. Little did we know what the future held for us!

I am writing to you today to explain the "Continuity of Learning Plan" that we have developed as a district in an effort to continue the learning of our students. There are many parts to this plan, and I will hit the highlights here. If you have additional questions you can contact me at any time and I will get back to you in a timely manner with a response.

Many of you are wondering *What can I expect from school staff at this time?* Here is a simplified list, which is definitely not all encompassing of how we want to support your family during this difficult time:

- Weekly contacts-check in opportunities with you and/or your child to support academics as well as your child's overall well-being. This may be through a phone call, emails, texts, or other virtual means. Initial contacts will be made this week!
- Learning opportunities. Instruction will be delivered both electronically AND in "hard copy" in the packets that our teachers have thoughtfully assembled for you.
- Feedback. When student work is submitted, teachers will follow up with you and your child about the work that they have completed.
- Availability. Staff will be available by email, as well as in established "office hours" when you and/or your child may call in to ask specific questions about instruction or work to be completed.

Your next question might be *What are you expecting from my child?*We know that these times are difficult for your child (and you!) as they are certainly missing the structure of their routine and their school life. This is what we are looking for from our kids:

- Participate in online meetings (when available and able). This is a time for your child to connect with classmates and their teacher. The focus will be on your child's wellbeing, rather than heavily on academics.
- Complete 60 minutes of work per day, plus and up to 30 minutes of "essentials" (Art/PE) time.
- Ask questions about their learning when they need it!

Finally, as a hugely important part of this educational partnership, *What we are expecting from Parents:*

- Establish a routine for your child that includes time spent learning. 90 minutes per day. Chunk this time up if needed and allow your child some choice in the work they would like to complete first.
- Access online resources as you are able. All resources will be found on the Fremont Public Schools webpage under <u>Educational Enrichment Opportunities</u>. https://www.fremont.net/extended-school-closure/enrichment-opportunities/daisy-brook/
- Encourage and help your child to participate in online meetings as you are able.
- Return your child's work. Packets can be returned to buses during meal drop offs or at Fremont Middle School or Pine Street School. Student work can also be shared electronically by scanning work in or taking photos and emailing those to the teacher. Returning student work will ensure that your student receives CREDIT for the third and fourth marking periods of the 2019-2020 school year.
- Please make sure that we have updated contact information for you in our system. If you are unsure, please contact us with your most recent phone number, address, and email.
- Ask questions. Call. Email. Check into an online meeting. We are here for you!

Some additional questions that have been asked:

What about teacher requests for next year? Request forms can be picked up at and returned to the Administrative Building on Pine Street.

What about grading? Our plan is to advance all students to the next grade level. We are highly encouraging your child's participation in the work over the next several weeks.

When can I get my child's belongings from school? As soon as we have a green-light from our Health Department and School Board, we will develop a plan for you to safely pick your child's belongings up from school.

We are hopeful that through this partnership between school and home that we can keep our students learning and growing over the coming weeks, both academically and emotionally. We know that this won't be an easy task. This form of "school" is so vastly different from what we are accustomed to. We would so much prefer to have our kids gathered around us and support their learning in a face-to-face manner than by the means we are being forced to do now due to this pandemic.

I know you have more questions and I am more than happy to answer them for you. Please reach out to me via email or phone and I will get back to you as quickly as possible.

We miss our students and we appreciate all that you are doing from your homes to support our kids' learning over the coming days. We are in this together. Please take care of one another and reach out to us for support.

Packer Strong!

Fran Clemence