



THORSday, April 2, 2020

Dear Viking F-A-M-I-L-Y (Students, Parents and Staff),

First and foremost, I hope you are all staying healthy and safe. Now that we know Poudre School District (PSD) will remain closed through the end of this academic year, I'm writing to communicate Lesher's student workload plan moving forward.

Lesher students and teachers began transitioning to remote learning after spring break Monday, 3/23. During week 1 our goal was for all children to respond to their teachers check ins via Google Classroom and/or PSD email so we could identify who was or was not connecting. No new material was presented, only enrichment and extension activities. Beginning week 2 on Monday, 3/30 lesson activities were intended to practice and reinforce concepts already learned as well as begin introducing new content, concepts or skills. I reminded our teachers, content isn't king, caring is king. Teachers have been meeting virtually via Microsoft Teams during weeks 1 – 2 as grade level teams and depts. to co-plan weeks 3 – 9. We've decided to move forward with the following theme-based/content blocks schedule to manage the amount of communication and workload your child receives from his/her 7 teachers:

<b>S-T-E-A-M MONDAY</b>	<b>HUMANITIES TUESDAY</b>	<b>S-T-E-A-M WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>HUMANITIES THURSDAY</b>	<b>FINISH-UP FRIDAY</b>
Science Technology/ Engineering Arts Math	English Language Arts (Including Pro ELA, Strategic ELA, & English Language Development) Social Studies PE Foreign Language	Science Technology/ Engineering Arts Math	English Language Arts (Including Pro ELA, Strategic ELA, & English Language Development) Social Studies PE Foreign Language	No new content, end of week check ins, surveys, teacher feedback, etc.

Our general guidelines are:

- ✓ 4 hours of schoolwork per day x 5 days = 20 hours per week.
- ✓ Students take 7 classes each semester, either Technology or PE but not both in one semester, so they will have 3 classes on M/W and 4 classes on T/TH, or vice versa. Extended Learning Opportunity (ELO) classes, which are graded S (Satisfactory) or U (Unsatisfactory), will be put on pause 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, so all students will receive a Satisfactory grade.
- ✓ 1 hour for 4 classes per day or 1 hour and 20 minutes for 3 classes per day, twice per week (M/W or T/TH), plus about another 30 minutes or so for all 7 classes on Finish Up Friday amounts to roughly 2 ½ - 3 hours of work per class per week per student.
- ✓ Teachers expect students to interact with their class content 2-3 times per week.
- ✓ No assignments are "optional" in any class. The goal is all students do all work assigned.



- ✓ A student's 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter grade will be his/her default grade for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter/2<sup>nd</sup> semester. It can only go up, not down. For more information about instruction and grading, please read the attached document titled PSD Secondary Family Communication Instruction 4-3-20 released April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- ✓ Click this link to a 7-minute THORSday Update video explaining this theme-based/content blocks schedule: <https://youtu.be/N8o0TspXrUs>.

Let's all be patient with each other as we adjust to this new asynchronous learning model. Our home spaces have become our workspaces, classrooms, and playgrounds. While this current situation is something none of us signed up for, let's try and keep everything in perspective. Our grandparents and great grandparents were called to war in Vietnam, Korea, Europe, or Japan. Anne Frank and seven others hid in a 450 square foot attic for 761 days, quietly trying to remain undiscovered to stay alive. We're being called to work from home, wash our hands, and stay at least 6 feet apart. We can all do our part to keep everyone safe.

We will continue to do the best we can, where we are, with what we've got. If you need anything please email your teachers, or grade-level administrator/counselor team: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Janice Martinez ([janicem@psdschools.org](mailto:janicem@psdschools.org)) and Ashley Broody ([abroody@psdschools.org](mailto:abroody@psdschools.org)), 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Lisa Crossland ([lcrossla@psdschools.org](mailto:lcrossla@psdschools.org)) and Abryana Wood ([awood@psdschools.org](mailto:awood@psdschools.org)), 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Warren Morrow ([wmorrow@psdschools.org](mailto:wmorrow@psdschools.org)) and Stacy Arellano ([sarellan@psdschools.org](mailto:sarellan@psdschools.org)), or me Tom Dodd ([tdodd@psdschools.org](mailto:tdodd@psdschools.org)). If your need to email another staff member, please click this link to the Lesher staff directory: <https://les.pdschools.org/directory>. It's all about F-A-M-I-L-Y... Forget About Me I Love You!

Lastly, Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> is still a day off for students. It was previously a student-led conferences exchange day for staff, but since student-led conferences have been canceled it is now a no-contact day with students and a time for teachers to collaborate and for staff to focus on developing their skills. Stay safe and take care.

Shine on,  
**T. DODD**

Tom Dodd, PhD  
Principal



Poudre School District

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Principal: Tom Dodd, PhD | Assistant Principals: Warren Morrow, MA & Janice Martinez, MA

Here's a quick recap of Lesher's first virtual dress up week on Instagram (@leshervikings):

