



Sunday, March 22, 2020

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

I can't think of a time when our motto, F-A-M-I-L-Y... Forget About Me I Love You, could be more appropriate. A lot has happened since the day before spring break. I hope all our families and staff were able to enjoy some quality time together over the past week, despite the various travel limitations, business closures, etc.

Per the email we all received from Poudre School District (PSD) on Thursday, 3/19 about school closures, food distribution, Colorado Dept. of Education canceling CMAS assessments, and the Colorado High School Activities Assoc. canceling spring sports and activities through Friday, 4/18, Lesher students and teachers will be engaging in remote learning beginning tomorrow Monday, 3/23. Here is an overview of what to expect:

WEEK 1: Monday, 3/23 – Friday, 3/27

Please have your child check their school email daily to stay up to date on communication from teachers, Lesher, and PSD about academics, activities, etc. Teachers will use their existing online communication and instructional platforms such as email, Synergy, Google Classroom, etc. to connect with students. No new material is to be presented this week, only enrichment and extension activities. Attendance will not be taken. Teachers will connect virtually as dept. and grade level teams to co-plan the remaining 3 weeks and share their resources internally via the Lesher Google Drive.

WEEK 2-4: Monday, 3/30 – Friday, 4/17

Lessons will not necessarily replace new learning that would occur if Lesher was open; rather, lesson activities will provide students opportunities to practice and reinforce concepts they've recently learned to extend and enrich learning and introduce new concepts or skills. Assignments should be simple, engaging, and manageable. Students will submit work for teacher feedback and all assessments should be considered formative rather than summative. Students may use a variety of materials, such as books, other printed materials, technology, and community resources. Attendance will not be taken. All Lesher students have PSD devices and they will need internet to access their learning materials. Comcast is providing Internet access to low-income families in its service areas. For more information, or to sign up visit the Internet Essentials webpage here: www.internetessentials.com. [Comcast is offering two months of free access](#) as well as [WiFi hot spots](#).

Please be patient with our staff as we adjust to this new delivery model. While we've had a one-to-one laptop initiative at Lesher and in PSD for many years, and our teachers have engaged in professional development to become more digitally innovative with their classroom instruction and assessment, different teachers and subject areas have different levels of



Poudre School District

Lesher Middle School,
an International Baccalaureate World School

1400 Stover Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524



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

readiness and capacity for what we will be doing the next 4 weeks, just like our students. Counselors will be available via email for check-ins and support. If your need to email a staff member, please click this link to the Lesher staff directory: <https://les.pdschools.org/directory>.

PSD will be emailing district updates on Mondays and Thursdays and has created a the [PSD COVID-19 Response webpage](#) for additional information. You can also visit the [Larimer County Department of Health and Environment website](#) for updates about COVID-19 in Larimer County.

It's our intention to provide the best learning experiences and outcomes for our students. If any staff member or student doesn't have what they need to work remotely from home during the next 4-weeks, i.e. laptops, chargers, etc. please email your grade-level administrator: 6th Grade Janice Martinez (janicem@pdschools.org), 7th Grade Lisa Crossland (lcrossla@pdschools.org), 8th Grade Waren Morrow (wmorrow@pdschools.org), or me Tom Dodd (tdodd@pdschools.org). Teamwork makes the dream work!

Shine on,

T. DODD

Tom Dodd, PhD
Principal