



Livingston PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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March 12, 2020

Dear Riker Hill Parents/Guardians,

With the uncertainty surrounding the Coronavirus and the possibility that we may shift to *Remote Learning*, I echo Dr. Block's sentiments that "our goal is to keep students learning during a timeframe when we may not be in school." While there is nothing that can replace seeing all of our students, teachers, and staff walking through our doors each day, our Family is committed to doing whatever is necessary to continue being a community of learners and living our Family Values.

Our teachers and staff have been working tirelessly to make preparations that will lead to meaningful learning experiences and, most importantly, maintaining the connections and trusting relationships they have worked so hard to develop over the past 6 months. We will strive to provide students with a sense of stability during this experience and continue to support them in their educational journeys.

In order to have the most successful outcomes with *Remote Learning*, I would like to provide you with some general guidelines and reminders, which build upon what was mentioned in Dr. Block's letter from earlier this week.

- Morning Announcements will be sent daily in video form for your children to view
- In order to be counted as "Present" for the day, your child's teacher must receive an email by 10am. In the event that your child is sick or cannot attend to the day's learning activities, you can respond with "Absent." All attendance will be updated daily in Genesis.
- If a teacher doesn't receive a response from you for multiple days, Mrs. Paoletta and I will be following up with those families.
- Teachers will share conferencing schedules with you, which will indicate the times they will be communicating directly with your child via Google Meet or a phone call. I, respectfully, ask that this be a time for your child and their teacher to communicate and connect. This should not serve as a parent/teacher conference, being mindful that the teachers have to contact every child in their classroom. Students should be available during the scheduled times. If for some reason they are unavailable, you can reschedule to a mutually agreeable time with the teacher.
- Teachers will be available via email on and off throughout the regular school day times (8:05am-2:40pm). Please feel free to contact them with any questions or concerns, like you usually would do.
- In the event your child's teacher has to be "offline" due to illness or personal reasons, their learning activities will still be posted and communicated either by them or another grade-level teacher, but they may not be able to respond to you that particular day. If this were to happen, it will be communicated in the Daily Agenda email and attendance will be emailed to [Mrs. Currao](#).
- If your child is enrolled in any enrichment/support/intervention classes i.e. BSI, ESL, Band, etc. you will receive information about learning activities directly from that teacher.

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- I will be available via email and phone to support all students throughout this experience each step of the way.

In order to be as prepared as possible for whatever comes our way, teachers are sending students home with ALL materials they may need during *Remote Learning*. This includes Chromebooks and chargers for all students in Grades 2-5 who have been given parent/guardian consent.

In addition to the consent form permissions, here are some additional guidelines and reminders for appropriate use of Chromebooks:

- Chromebooks should be plugged in and fully charged each night
- On days we are still physically coming to school, students should bring their Chromebook in their backpack - the charger can be left at home for the time being
- Students should only use these to complete school-related learning activities
- When participating in discussion forums on platforms like Google Classroom and Google Meet, it is important to be respectful when posting comments and to follow all teacher directions, so everyone has a positive experience
- Please visit the district's [Technology Remote Learning Information](#) page for more info and support!



Need assistance? Email the Tech Team!

Parents: parenthelpdesk@livingston.org

Students: studenthelpdesk@livingston.org

In the event we move to *Remote Learning*, I ask that you please be patient with our teachers and staff as we collectively navigate through this and learn together. On the bright side, we are fortunate to be in a school district that values technology and has so many wonderful resources available to all of our students and staff. This provides us with an exciting opportunity to put our resilience and perseverance to the test, which happen to coincide with our SEL goals, and are such important life skills that can be used for a lifetime to come.

With the powers of our Ramily combined, I am confident that we will get through this with flying colors. When we look back and reflect on this experience, I have no doubt that we will be better because of all we learned from it and will be able to apply those lessons if we ever need to do something like this again. As always, I sincerely thank you for your continued collaboration, partnership, and support!

Best Regards,

Handwritten signature of Justin Toomey.

Justin Toomey

#WEARERAMILY

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