Welcome back, Parents and Students!

I hope you enjoyed some rest and relaxation during your spring break week.

I am going to do my best to try and answer some of your questions that have come my way in light of some recent changes.

**Grades:**

Teachers are adding grades in Synergy for assignments in Q4.

At the end of Quarter 4, Students will not receive grades lower than their quarter 3 grades. Students may work during quarter 4 to increase their grades, but they will not go lower than Q3. If your student had straight A’s for Q3, they would have straight A’s for Q4.

No Q 4 grades are to be lower than a 70 per the governor.

Students will receive a numerical grade, a letter grade, and all grades over 70 will receive a P for pass.

Bottom line: Your child cannot fail Q4. If they stop working right now, the lowest grade they can receive is the grade they earned in Q3. I STRONGLY ENCOURAGE you to keep your child in learning mode. 4 months out of school will have a negative effect on their academic retention to start the next academic year.

**Digital Learning Schedule:**

Per CCSD, our digital learning week has been reduced to Monday – Thursday with Friday reserved for teacher collaboration. Students are not to receive any work on Fridays.

I have sent the new digital learning schedule through our e-blast.

**Your new role as a homeschool parent:**

I understand that you didn’t sign up for this! This was not in the plan and here you are trying to teach math, science, social studies, and ELA/Reading. First, breath! DO NOT try to make your children sit at the table for 6 hours every day. It doesn’t work like that for home schooling. Also, if you just aren’t feeling it today or your kids are just not participating today, STOP and come back to it tomorrow. There are no awards for making yourself or your child miserable trying to keep up. By the way: There is no keeping up. Every single child in the U.S. and elsewhere is doing the same thing you are. Flying by the seat of your pants. So, Relax and have some fun. They are not falling behind.

I am attaching an article written by a former teacher turned homeschool mom. She gives some very good advice for parents/teachers trying this new learning platform in your home. I hope this helps to relieve some of the pressure. Go outside of the curriculum. Introduce subjects that are really cool for you and your children. Learn to cook. There’s a lot of math in a recipe! Learn a foreign language. Study a country that may intrigue you or just learn more about dinosaurs and sharks. Have fun! You can’t fail! You are spending some amazing time with your amazing kids and you may never have this opportunity again.

**Article: Opinion | I went from teaching your kids to homeschooling mine. Here are some lessons.**

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**Disney and Aquarium refunds:**

The travel companies have been in negotiations and we will receive refunds. The amount and timing of the refunds depends on much more than I have control over. As soon as the money is put back in our LMMS account, we will begin the process of refunding those trips. At the earliest it will be sometime in late May.

**Final Words:**

Things are still going to change. We must be prepared for that.

We miss you and we miss your children! We would like everything to go back to normal but until that time, know that we are doing the best we can and so are you. We will get through this together!

Be kind. Stay safe and healthy.

Dr. Nyeste