

3/23/2020

Dear Shumate Families,

We hope everyone is safe, healthy, and that our students are still feeling connected to school through the efforts of our outstanding teachers. We miss each and every Seahawk, and can't wait to see all of our students and families once we are able to once again meet together.

Teachers will continue to send materials throughout our time away, so please remind your child to check his/her email and Google Classroom daily. We've had the pleasure to speak with several parents over the last week, several of whom have expressed a level of concern regarding the amount of time students should spend working while away from school. Please know that we're not expecting students to work 6 hours each day, nor is it a good practice to do so. As a rule of thumb, plan on each teacher sending 2 activities per week, which will amount to approximately 1-2 hours of weekly enrichment and review work time per class, per week. As always, Compass and Khan online platforms are available for additional enrichment.

We want to remind families that food distribution will continue to take place from 1:00-3:00 in the Carlson/Shumate bus loop. This is to ensure we are maintaining safety and social distancing protocols from the state and federal government. This will be a drive-thru style pick-up so we ask all families to please remain seated in your vehicle.

At this time, sports and activities are on hold until further notice. Unfortunately, we will not know the extent of postponements and cancellations until we receive word that we are able to return to school. For now, the only thing we can say for certain is that all sports and activities are on hold until at least April 14th.

It is completely normal for kids (and parents) to feel stressed when our worlds are turned upside down, and there is so much uncertainty regarding the next few weeks, and possibly months. We are, however, presented with an outstanding opportunity to practice living in the present. Looking too far forward will most certainly fill our youngsters with a sense of anxiety, and dwelling on events and opportunities that existed just a few weeks ago can have a depressing effect on children. Living for today is the key to maintaining a balance for young people trying to understand our new (and hopefully short lived) normal. For more social/emotional guidance, please click on the link below. Please remember, we are here for your children now as much as ever.

<https://sites.google.com/gibdist.net/seahawks-sel/home>

Thank you for your continued patience. This time away has been difficult on everyone, and we want you to know that your children are on our minds and in our hearts. We'll continue to keep you posted as things inevitably change over the next few weeks. Until then, take care of each other, and stay healthy!

Warmest Seahawk Regards,

Eric Cassie and Dave Anderson