

## MANASQUAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

"One School, One Team, Making a Difference"

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March 26, 2020

Dear Grades 6-8 Parents,



First, we wanted to take the time to thank you for overseeing your child's progress at home with online lessons and assignments during the first two weeks of our school's closure. We understand how challenging the current situation has been for our entire school community.

As we move forward, our students in Grades 6-8 will continue to be online following their daily schedule and utilizing a virtual classroom through Canvas. Grades 6-8 teachers will continue to be available for students online during class time on the discussion boards, chats, and video conferences. Furthermore, all teachers will be available via email to answer any student or parent questions. Technology support will also continue to be available for students from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm at the High School gymnasium entrance.

We also wanted you to be aware that our middle school teachers in Grades 6-8 will begin to take period by period class attendance in Genesis beginning on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. To date, attendance has been monitored manually by the teachers, but we will be moving back to a more formalized attendance procedure now that our students seem to be well adjusted to our new online format for instruction. As a result, please remind your child to be online <u>at the beginning</u> <u>of each class</u> and not to be "late"! Attendance will be taken during the first five minutes of the class period. We appreciate your assistance with this matter.

Unfortunately, we also have some disappointing news to share. As a result of the current circumstances, and for the safety of our students and faculty, the decision has been made to cancel upcoming class trips. This includes the Eighth Grade trip to Gettysburg, the Seventh Grade trip to Philadelphia, and the Music Festival/Dorney Park trip for our Chorus and Band students. Information will be forwarded to parents in the near future regarding reimbursement for payments already made. We are very saddened to announce the cancellations, but please know we are currently discussing possible opportunities for our students that include spirit events and online virtual field trips and assembly programs.

Again, please know how much we appreciate your support as we move through this uncharted territory together. We are so proud of our students and how hard they are working. It has been amazing to see how positively they are adjusting to their new world of instruction.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us if we can be of any assistance. We are here to support you and your child in any way that we possibly can.

Warm regards, Colleen Graziano, Richard Kirk, Justin Roach, Margaret Polak