



Mount Pleasant School District Board of Trustees
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April 29, 2020

Dear MPESD TK-7th Grade Families (separate email will be sent to 8th-grade students)

We hope this letter finds you well. We want to thank you for partnering with us to support your child with distance learning as we continue to meet his or her needs. Our children are at the center of our work.

Just like in the traditional learning environment, your involvement in distance learning has a major role in your child's learning process and success. More than ever, it is critical to make sure that your child continues to make strides and minimize the academic slide during this challenging time. The studies have shown that learning and achievement are perishable. The average student loses a month of academic calendar learning during a month of break. The impact of this academic slide is more pronounced in the achievement gap, especially in reading, with students who identify with a low socioeconomic status.

Although the students will receive passing grades during the COVID-19 pandemic, we stress the vital necessity of your child's daily participation with distance learning. The Trimester 3 report card will be different from Trimester 1 and 2. The Trimester 3 report card will have a section on "level of online participation" in conjunction with distance learning.

Our distance learning plan is designed to reconnect students with their teachers and peers and provide continuity of learning. We know that distance learning cannot replicate the in-person classroom experience, however, it is still our goal to maintain a level of learning, so as to not have the academic slide or loss of learning.

Here are some ways you may continue to partner with us:

1. Support your child by logging into Clever to complete their on-line and off-line assignments Monday through Thursday.
2. Have your child join a Google Hangout. If the scheduled time doesn't work, please reach out to your child's teacher.
3. Check-in daily with your child and ask about the work he or she has completed. Please stress the importance of completing and submitting his or her assigned work.
 - a. TK -2 daily independent work is about one hour.
 - b. Grades 3-5 daily independent work is about two hours.
 - c. Grades 6-7 daily independent work is about three hours.
4. Communicate regularly with your child's teacher about your child's progress and/or concerns.

We greatly appreciate all that you do in supporting distance learning. We have been reaching out to all families via e-mails, texts, and phone calls. If we haven't heard from you, please be advised that your child will be dropped from enrollment for 2020-21 since he/she is not participating in distance learning.

Please feel free to contact your child's teacher and me with any questions or concerns. We are here for you as we continue to live through this COVID-19 pandemic.

Wishing you good health and safety,