

# McAlister Family Update--April 5, 2020



McAlister Families,

As always, we hope this MIS Family Update finds you well. We are excited to move into our second week of online learning through Google Classroom. This has been a learning process for everyone--students, staff, and parents alike! Thank you for all of your patience, hard work, and partnership as we work through this new medium.

We sent out a parent survey, relative to student online learning, late last week and have been reviewing the results. We already started planning on how we can increase our student/teacher interaction. To that end, we will use Google Hangouts or Google Meets and we will also work to further streamline and organize our lessons. By Thursday of this week, you and your students will start to notice these efforts! Continue reading for additional information and know that if you have any questions, please reach out to your child's teacher directly.

Take care and be well,

*Karen Carpenter-Snow*

**MIS Staff Video**--Our staff got together and created a video for all of our students--to say hello, tell them we miss them and that we are here for them! We sent the link out last week, but if you had trouble viewing it, [here is it again!](#) We love our students :)

**Week of April 6**--Remember that this week's schedule will go from Monday through Thursday only, as Good Friday will be observed per the school calendar.

**Communicating Technology Issue with Student Chromebooks**-- If your child is using a district-issued Chromebook and you are having technology issues, please click on the [link](#) (which takes you directly to the Suffield Public Schools Tech Support Form) and complete the form. Please also contact your classroom teacher so they are aware.

**List of Free Online Books and Learning Resources for Students--**Mrs. Pakula created a list of free [online books and learning resources](#) for our students. She spoke about many of them in a letter that was emailed to parents on Friday, April 3. Additionally, Mrs. Pakula is also partnering with Kent Memorial Library to help students who do not have a library card apply for one online. A HUGE thank you to Mrs. Pakula!



**Teacher Parade--**On Tuesday, April 7 starting at 1:00 P.M. AWS and MIS teachers will have a Teacher Parade. The Teacher Parade will be a parade of cars driving through the various neighborhoods and streets of Suffield. We will be driving by, honking our horns and waving hello! We will not be stopping, so please practice social distancing and stay in your yard/driveway/car/house and wave! The route was emailed to all families on April 3 and is posted on [mis.suffield.org](https://mis.suffield.org).

**Attendance--**This week will mark the beginning of a process to track student attendance. Parents should submit the [attendance form](#) by 10:00 a.m if their child will not be engaging in the lessons for that day. Our office staff will call to verify the absence and will be entering the information into PowerSchool. The attendance form is also linked on the [Continuity of Learning Page](#) on the District Website. Know that teachers will continue to reach out to parents if they notice students have not been engaging.

**Google Classroom Links--**If you are having difficulties with teachers' links not working in Google Classroom, try logging out of all other Google accounts, as having more than one Google account open will limit access to certain links.



**Update from Our Student Support Services --**As we come to the end of week one of distance learning, please be reminded this “new normal” is uncharted territory for all of us! Be kind to yourself and know that you are doing the best that you can in the present moment. During this time of uncertainty, it is important to find balance. This week, you learned how to work from home and navigate Google Classroom. This weekend, we challenge you to focus your energy on being with your family and doing something **fun**! Use this BINGO board and see how many squares you can check off with your family this weekend. Remember, “balance is not something you find, it is something you create.”

**Don't forget to send us pictures/videos of you and your family finding your balance. Send pictures/videos to Ms. Lawrence ([klawrence@suffield.org](mailto:klawrence@suffield.org)), Ms. Correa ([mcorrea@suffield.org](mailto:mcorrea@suffield.org)), or Ms. Burke ([eburke@suffield.org](mailto:eburke@suffield.org))!** Take care and please reach out with questions or any needs.

Family BINGO		
Take a walk	Make a TikTok Video	Family karaoke
Watch a movie	Build a fort	Make a meal
Have a talent show	Create a chalk mural on your driveway	Do a puzzle

**Important Update from Our School Nurse--**The nurses of Suffield Public Schools will be offering a drive through medication pickup at each school on Wednesday April 8, 2020 from 4-5:30pm. This will be the ONLY time medication may be picked up from the schools. Please make arrangements accordingly.

In order to maintain recommended social distancing, we will be organizing medications that will be readily available for pickup as you pull up to the school. At this time, no one will be allowed to enter the building. The nurses will be stationed inside the foyer of the school with the medications and 2 tables will be set up outside of the school for medication pickup.

School Nurse News



As you pull up to the school, please maintain the recommended 6 feet of space between parties. You will verbalize who you are picking medication up for and fill out the medication pickup form on table #1. At that time, the nurse will retrieve your medication and place it on table #2. You may then take your child's medication and return to your vehicle.

If you are picking up a controlled medication, the nurses will be conducting a pre-count prior to pick up. You will count and sign the 2<sup>nd</sup> signature of the form on table #2. If anyone other than the parent/guardian is picking up a controlled medication, please let your nurse know ahead of time or the medication will not be permitted to leave the building.

Please email Mrs Dingley at [mdingley@suffield.org](mailto:mdingley@suffield.org) if you plan on picking up your child's medication so that we can best be prepared for this new event. If you have questions, please email your school nurse individually as we do not have access to our voicemail from home.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding during this confusing time we live in right now. We will get through all of this together! Stay well--Manda Dingley