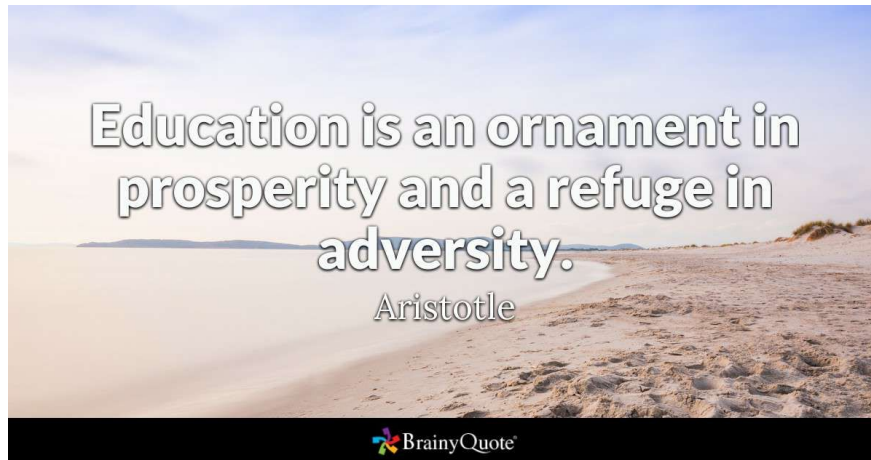


March 29, 2020



SHS Community!

This correspondence is for all parents/guardians, students, and staff at Suffield High School. As we prepare for the Continuous Learning Plan and a more formalized approach to educating our students, we on the administrative team find ourselves humbled by the patience, kindness, and unwavering support of our students, parents/guardians, and staff. Together, we will persevere and eventually prosper.

Coordination of the Continuous Learning Plan was ongoing last week through virtual meetings. The administrative teams at each school will meet regularly via video and conference calls with Central Office administration to ensure consistency among all schools. The high school administrative team is meeting regularly, via Google Meets/Hangouts, with department heads, school counseling staff, and our Student Assistance Model (SAM) / Crisis Team. Departments then break out on their own for conferencing to ensure all faculty members understand the focus of the Continuous Learning Plan. Although I highlighted the plan in my last correspondence, it has been formalized throughout the course of the week. Below are some particulars:

- By now, your student should have received “Welcome Letters”, via each teacher's Google Classroom page. We do not want to flood your inbox, but rather migrate you to individual classroom pages in an effort to best assist students, and help monitor their engagement.
- For this week, teachers will be posting lessons (**approximately 25 minutes in length**) via their Google Classroom pages.
 - Teachers will be seeking feedback from students on the length of time it takes to complete. Doing so will help inform future lesson plans.

- Work assigned is based on the approved curriculum and is being monitored by our district staff, building administration, and instructional coaches.
- Teachers will be available from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM to answer questions via email.
- The first phase of work will not be graded; teachers will provide feedback on assignments. Look for an email later this week with specifics.
- We will closely monitor student engagement. Teachers will provide feedback on work and will contact students, parents, and the school counselor if we notice a lack of engagement.
- Our staff members have varying abilities when it comes to screencasting, Youtube channels, and other means of technology related platforms. Please be patient as we experiment with various types of curriculum delivery.
 - Some teachers may be ready for video platforms, while others will be practicing next week with the goal of full implementation for the week of April 6th.
- [School Counseling information](#) is provided in this link for you as a resource.
- As we move to potential live interactions with students, a set of [guidelines](#) to ensure appropriate attire, language, etc. has been created. I will send it to students directly, but please take time to discuss with them.

Future updates will also include a focus on student and staff celebrations, information about school, and events scheduled throughout the spring.

Note: As referenced in my first video, Google Classroom, while helpful, has different views for parents and students. Many thanks to the parents I have worked with to get them set up. Your questions help me become more proficient.

I encourage you to ask your children to share their view with you for all classes in order to help us monitor student engagement. Resources for academics and social emotional well-being are provided in the stream. Our partnership during this uncertain time will go a long way in making this experience as positive as it can possibly be for our students.

In partnership, and with many thanks,

Jim Blain