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Hello AMS Friends and Families,

It is official, we will continue with remote learning for the remainder of this school year. I am sure while many of us thought this was inevitable, a fair number of us held out hope for a return to some kind of normalcy. We know this news brings mixed feelings, and a little trepidation as we continue to juggling the multiple hats that we all wear these days. This is no easy task for anyone. That is why it is even more critical now than ever before that we support one another as we finish off this school year. While the waters are a little easier to navigate in some spots, there are still obstacles. Remember, AMS is here to help. So please, do not hesitate to reach out to teachers, counselors, support staff, and administration, as we are here to help you and our students in any way we can. Below are a few items to share with you.

AMS Misses You 2.0

Here is a link to a message from our faculty to our students: [AMS Misses You 2.0](#)

Avon Community Supports

Here is a link to some of the [Avon Community Supports](#).

Student Items left at AMS and Yearbooks

Now that it is confirmed that we will not return to school this school year, we are preparing to return items that students may have left behind (lockers, artwork, etcetera). Also, we are creating a plan for our yearbook distribution as well. Once these plans are finalized, we will send out information to parents.

Closing out the “School Year”

While we are not able to conduct our traditional end-of-year events, we are working with our PTO and staff to create ways to recognize our students, and to say farewell and hello. As these plans are more solidified, we will send out information to families. We just wanted you to know we were thinking about these things, as they are equally important to us as they are to you.

Field Trips and Musical reimbursements (Broadway trip, music trips, Musical)

With all of our field trips canceled for the year, we held out some hope that we would return to school and possibly be able to attend our end-of-year field trips. Now that we are officially not returning, we will begin the process of reimbursing funds to families.

- For those families who paid via check, if we have already deposited your check, we will send you a reimbursement check in the same amount through the mail.

- If you paid by check, and we have not cashed it, we will return your uncashed check to you through the mail.
- If you paid cash, we will reimburse you via check, which we will mail out to you.

With the roughly 300 checks that need to be created, signed, and sent out, we ask for your patience. We will work as fast as we can, though our current situation limits our efficiency.

AMS Art Gallery

Once again, thank you to Ms. Hillman and Mrs. Lefebvre for our latest student artwork display, virtually! We are constantly amazed at work that students produce across the content areas- here is a sample of our visual student artwork: [Updated AMS Art Gallery Link 3](#).

Monday is an A Day

As a reminder to students, Monday, May 11th is an A day. It is expected that students are attending the “required” google meet weekly for their classes and engaging in their schoolwork daily. Teams are continuing to send out correspondence to students and families, via google classroom and student/parent email accounts, with updates on assignments.

I wanted to end this message on a more personal note by sharing a daily practice from my family. Like many of you, we try to have dinner together nightly. One would think in a remote working environment that this would be easier, though that is not always the case. In fact, the work/family lines are blurred more now than ever. Still, with everything unfolding in the world and within our own lives, I always feel it is important to end our days on a positive note. So, at the end of dinner, or as we put our children to bed, we always ask the same question, “What was the best part of your day?” I have found this simple question to provide me an insight into the minds of my children. What they value, what they deem as important, and what brings joy to their worlds. It is a perspective builder, and a brief part of my day that I have come to cherish.

With all the uncertainty life has to throw at us, and the incredible disruption that we all feel right now, this simple practice is a reprieve from the chaos. We definitely miss days, and our children do well to remind us when we do. Sometimes, the best part of the day is the question, that moment when Indigo or Zephyr (my daughter and son) look at me and ask with sincere interest and love, “What was the best part of your day?” It is a reminder that our love for our children, our deep willingness to endure anything to secure their safety, and the little moments of connection are what get us through. What our children need now is our attention, our patience, and our love. So, I hope this little practice may help you and your family find some calm and joy at this stressful time.

Also, Happy Mother’s Day to all our AMS moms! Thank you for trusting us with your children.

Enjoy the weekend,

Dave and Kristina

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