March 18, 2020

Dear Carrollton Community,

As we near the end of our first week of remote learning, I am happy to report that for most of our students the change has been very smooth. Our faculty have worked hard to prepare plans that we believe are developmentally appropriate for each grade level. Our goal is to develop lessons and learning experiences that engage our students in multiple formats and not to simply just run our regular schedule with our students passively following on the screen. That said, we are having regular meetings and sharing feedback and ideas with the goal of improving student engagement as we learn and experience this novel situation. I share this link in which one of our teachers, gives some advice from her experience with [schooling at home](https://www.carrolltonhs.org/News/RemoteLearningAdvice).

As more and more communities are being told to shelter at home, some of you may be looking for information on how to keep your kids busy and learning when they are not engaged with their schoolwork. In this link you will find a [large list of virtual activities and field trips](https://www.carrolltonhs.org/News/RemoteLearningActivities) that you and your children can take from your home. Additionally, I always recommend reading to your children whenever possible. For those times when it is not possible [Operation Storytime](https://www.carrolltonhs.org/News/RemoteLearningStorytime) is a website where you can find links of celebrities reading some of their favorite stories to be shared with all children. This site may take some time to load, as I suspect it is getting a lot of visitors. You can also access all of Carrollton's [Library Resources](https://www.carrolltonhs.org/News/RemoteLearningLibrary) as well.

There have also been questions about prepaid lunches. Since we do not know when our students will return to campus, our current plan is to keep funds in an agency account. Once we know how many meals were not delivered, we will offer our families a credit for next year, or a refund.

At Carrollton we are operating with only essential people on site. Should you need a question answered, or concern addressed, our faculty and staff are available via email. Our on-line directory can be found at this [link](https://www.carrolltonhs.org/News/RemoteLearningStaff).

Finally, I would like to share with you some uplifting news. In response to the viral scaremongering that seems to have taken over much of social media and group chats, the BBC reports that in Canada some groups are working to begin a trend of [Caremongering](https://www.carrolltonhs.org/News/RemoteLearningCaremonganing). Groups are forming with the intention of reaching out to those most vulnerable members in their communities to offer whatever assistance they can.

Regards,

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