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Good evening NSCS D parents and guardians,

I am writing to provide families with some updates and clarification regarding the K-4 "Remote Only" instructional model. If you haven't already received your child's placement email, it will be coming shortly. All emails are scheduled to be sent by the end of the day today. Our building principals and secretaries have been working tirelessly to group our remote students and communicate with families. If you have not received a placement email by midnight tonight, please contact your building Main Office. I have fielded several parent phone calls with some common questions regarding the remote only model so I felt it was appropriate to send an update to everyone, in order to hopefully address your questions and concerns.

Placement letters: As many of you know, we typically send placement letters around the middle of August. This year, these were significantly delayed due to the enormous task of reshuffling our students and teachers to accommodate our two instructional models (hybrid or remote). Following the parent survey, where parents selected their instructional choice, we went to work reallocating our staffing and grouping students for remote classrooms. We encountered some unexpected delays when placing students in our online school management system (School Tool) which have been resolved.

Communication: Now that we have solidified our staffing and teacher assignments, our teachers will be reaching out to connect and start the communication process. You should be receiving communication from your teacher by early next week, including contact information. Chromebook pick-up dates are finalized and will be communicated shortly.

Chromebooks: As I mentioned in my letter yesterday, we highly encourage families to take advantage of our Chromebook sign-out. The district Chromebooks are designed to seamlessly integrate with our technology platforms and can be supported by teachers and technology staff. If you are unable to acquire a school Chromebook for any reason, please contact your building Main Office for assistance.

Instruction: We have been spending a good deal of time this summer in preparation for hybrid and remote instruction. Our teachers have attended multiple training sessions and we have aligned our instructional expectations and technology platforms to offer a consistent model of instruction to best meet our students and family's needs. Students will have access to Google Classroom and/or See Saw as their online learning management system. Our instructional expectations emphasize equity between models and instruction will be paced accordingly with consistent rigor between the hybrid and remote only models. Unlike the hybrid model,

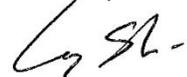
our remote teachers will have significant flexibility in their schedules to meet the various needs of our remote learners. This will allow teachers to work with large and small groups of students in a flexible manner. Teachers will offer daily synchronous instruction (interactive) as well as asynchronous (independent) assignments. Instruction in core content (ELA and Math) as well as Science and Social Studies will mirror that of the hybrid students but paced out over 5 days vs. 2 days. We intentionally spread the instruction over 5 days to meet the developmental needs of our younger students. Our remote teachers will be working with families to design schedules that are diverse enough to accommodate most situations (during the school day). All new content that is presented will also be accessible to our students who were unable to attend the live instruction.

Grading: We will continue with our elementary standards based report card and grades will be based on student learning as applied to the standards. Students are expected to attend daily instruction and participate in synchronous and asynchronous learning and activities. Students who fail to attend or engage with learning will receive regular reminders and intervention from teachers and/or school personnel. Grading will reflect student engagement as well as evidence of learning.

Schedules: As mentioned above, schedules will be unique to each teacher based on the make-up and needs of his/her students. Teachers will work with families to develop instructional schedules that are flexible and appropriate. Once schedules solidify over the first few weeks, they should stabilize and become more routine and consistent. Please bear with us as we work with our families to develop these schedules.

This will be the most challenging year in the history of our public education system. Shifting our entire system to a flexible model that relies heavily on virtual learning is no simple task. We have spent countless hours planning our instruction and adapting our delivery in order to meet this challenge. We know that even with the best planning, all schools are preparing for the unknown and therefore it will likely be a little “bumpy” as things get started. Please rest assured we have planned for this and our teachers and administrators are up for this challenge. We will adapt, learn and improve as we move forward and we ask for your patience and feedback. This pandemic has changed all of our “worlds”, but we will persevere. Our teachers will do what they do best, care for and educate our students to the highest level possible. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your assigned teacher, building principal, or me. I wish everyone a successful school year. Stay well!

Sincerely,



Greg Stone

Director of Elementary Education