

March 23, 2020

Dear U-32 Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers,

We now enter the first full week of our response to COVID-19 and we will begin to establish some routines and build new systems for learning. I have heard from several families about the challenges of negotiating computer time, family routines, slow internet, and living in close quarters. I saw a post yesterday from a family that was brainstorming things to do in the evening that did not involve technology. They thought about building a model of their house out of Legos, having a themed dinner party, and a whole category called "crazy dad ideas." I hope you are finding some things to do that bring you closer as a family. I also know that some of our families are facing job loss, illness, and other difficulties and I want everyone to know that we are here as a community to help each other. If you have a need and don't know where to turn, contact our school counselors, nurse or administration and we will try and point you to a community resource that can help.

Our teachers continue to adjust to the demands of maintaining learning on-line and throughout this week we will be emphasizing the development of schedules that honor the difficulties of multiple family members working from home, various resources for learning, and the swings in motivation that we are sure to see. Forgive us as we learn what does and does not work for our students and teachers. We are learning a lot about distance learning and it will take us a few tries to get it right.

Take a look at our [U-32 newsletter](#) for more information and sign up to receive updates via email. We are going to work hard to put all our news and announcements in the newsletter so you have one source for information. Finally, I want to give a big shout out to the folks who are providing food to all our families. From prep to delivery, we have the best employees working hard to make sure we prepare and provide enough for everyone. I have heard from some families that the daily delivery is a welcome break and we are happy that we have the resources to provide it to all our families regardless of need.

I miss having your kids in the building; it is quite a lonely place. I look forward to seeing everyone back again as soon as possible.

Take care and stay well,
Steven Dellinger-Pate