



West Park Academy • 12913 Bennington Avenue • Cleveland, Ohio 44135 • (216) 251-5450

April 20, 2020

Dear West Park Students and Families,

Sadly, we received the news today that Governor DeWine has instructed schools to remain closed for the remainder of the academic school year. While we understand this decision was made to help control the spread of the Coronavirus (Covid-19), it brings with it a sense of regret that we will not be able to be together in one place again until next year. Our hearts go out to all our students and staff, especially our 8th grade students who will be moving on to high school in the fall.

While the school building will remain shut down, learning and engagement will continue as it has over the past several weeks through the scheduled end of the year (May 21, 2020). On a weekly basis, learning packets will be made available and distributed through our website, during weekly meal pick-up times, and through the mail. Teachers, including intervention specialists, speech/language pathologists, occupational and physical therapists, and ESL teachers will be reaching out at least once/week to support the ongoing learning efforts. I have asked each one to devise a weekly routine that includes agreed upon times with families that they will connect with each student. Please ensure that you have made these arrangements and commitments with your child's teacher.

Given the shut down and challenges associated with distance learning, in lieu of traditional letter grades, teachers will instead be tracking progress on their weekly calls with your child to ensure that learning and growth continue all the way up until the end of the year. This is of far more importance to us during this time than any formal letter grades. Again, please ensure that the weekly check-ins are protected.

Meals will continue to be distributed each Tuesday from 10:00-1:00. A week's worth of lunch and breakfast will be provided. West Park has taken part in the summer meals program for the past few summers, as well. Information about this program will be released closer to the start of the summer. If your child has personal items at the school (school supplies, articles of clothing, etc.), please contact your child's teacher or Mr. Jaissle to make arrangements for retrieving those items. We anticipate school starting up again in August; our first day of school will be Monday, August 17th. Calendars and back to school information will be sent later this summer.

As we've said all along, *hang in there, West Park!* One of our pillars for success at West Park is **Resilience**. Without a doubt, this unprecedeted time has challenged us all, but we will get through this and we are here to help you. Please stay safe, healthy, and happy.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jaissle