TPMS PTA Meeting
April 29, 2020
Principal’s Update

- **Phase 1 of Academic Wing** - Construction and planning for the addition is still underway and on schedule. In the fall students will be moving back inside from portables next year.

- **Phase 2 of construction** - Expanding Cafeteria and PE areas will begin in the Fall 2020.

- **Congratulations to our C-SPAN Studentcam 2nd Prize Winners** - Filmmakers, Derek Mu and Jonathan Fan for their video “The Price of Life.”

- **Wake Up Takoma, currently renamed, Social Distancing Takoma** is up and running each Monday. Any student can submit videos to Mr. Wilson. Check it out on our website!

- **Next week is Staff Appreciation Week!** Encourage your child to send an email or video of appreciation to a teacher.
Principal’s Update

- **SSL Forms** - If you have any SSL forms for this school year that did not get turned in to the SSL dropbox, you may now email them directly to Mrs. Sita, Student Service Learning Coordinator. Her email is Deborah_L_Sita@mcpsmd.org. The TENTATIVE deadline to submit SSL forms for the year is Friday, June 5, 2020.

- **TPMS Weekly Update** - Please check the weekly messages for links to upcoming information and resources. Also posted on the TPMS Website.

- **Grade level parent/student support meetings** will be scheduled for next week and shared via Sunday Night message. Hosted by counselor and admin for each grade level, the focus will be on helping students and parents get organized and navigate online learning.
Parent Questions: Grading

• Why Pass/Incomplete for Marking Period 4 and what will constitute Pass vs. Incomplete?
  – A traditional grading system based on percentages and letter grades will not serve the best interests of all students during this period of online learning. We want to ensure that our grading system has a positive impact and can only help our students’ academic standing.
  – More information about implementation of this system, including how the final semester grade will be reported on transcripts, will be provided in the coming weeks.

• What happens if my child is taking a high school credit course?
  – MCPS is still developing guidelines on this. They are benchmarking with other systems and examining options.
Expectations for Teachers

- Should post a **notification** of activities, assignments and zoom info for the week on Monday morning on MyMCPS classroom.
- However, teachers will use either Google Classroom or MyMCPS classroom.
- Assignments should be posted by 9:00 a.m. the morning of the class.
- Teachers have been receiving Professional Development on how to deliver and make online learning accessible and clear to students.
- Teachers expected to be LIVE once a week during their scheduled time.
- Working with teachers to provide Professional Development on online learning models and providing clarity.
- If you don’t see these things happening - contact your grade level administrator.
Parent Questions: Navigating Platforms and Transitioning Back

• How do I navigate the platforms with my child and motivate them at the same time?
  – Use the TPMS online agenda book and guide to the teacher platforms to map out the week with our child. Possibly create incentives and a family schedule of what happens when.

• Who do I contact if my child and/or I are having trouble with the workload or navigating the two platforms for online learning?
  – You should contact the grade level administrator and counselor.

• What are we doing for students who don’t have access or support?
  • Administrators and counselors have made personal contact with students who are not accessing the online instruction and identified supports for students and families.
Parent Questions

• How will we get students adjusted to return to school when they return?
  – We start the year with activities to transition students back into school - especially 6th graders. There will likely be additional factors we need to consider in this transition back and we will adjust when the time comes and plan with additional considerations.
Guide to TPMS Teacher Classroom Platforms - All TPMS teachers use either MyMCPS Classroom (Canvas) or Google Classroom. While this may seem confusing to parents, students know which platforms their teachers use as they have used them all year in their classes with their teachers. This is a guide for both students and parents.

TPMS Distance Learning Agenda Book
Students can create their own copy of this document to help themselves get organized for their online courses. Access here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CEIglUexFvGpzzMhaaadJ-l2JKE7rsF77foCSzhA9e4/edit

Tutorials on Receiving Notifications from the MCPS Parent Portal or Google Classroom.
Parents may want to receive these notifications so that they are aware of teacher announcements and assignments. Please contact Scott DeGasperis or Jessica Phelan if you currently do not have access to the MyMCPS Parent Portal.

Notifications from Google Classroom

Notifications from MyMCPS Classroom

MCPS Community Tech Support Help – For the technical needs of any student or parent during remote learning. Published number - 240-740-7022
Who to contact?

6th grade:
- Scott DeGasperis (Scott_Degasperis@mcpsmd.org)
- Pam Lever, Counselor

7th Grade
- Aaron Barnett (Aaron_B_Barnett@mcpsmd.org)
- Carmen Martinez & Anne Salzman, Counselors

8th Grade
- Carlyn Patterson-Breese (Carlyn_P_Breese@mcpsmd.org)
- Kate Hankins, Counselor
- or me at Alicia_M_Deeny@mcpsmd.org.