

April 17, 2020

Dear Parents and Families,

I'm sure many of you heard the announcement from Governor Abbott today, extending closures of school campuses for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. While the news is not necessarily a surprise, as social distancing is still so critical to prevent the spread of this deadly disease, it still breaks my heart that we will not be able to come back together to close out the school year. Each and every one of you are in my thoughts and prayers. It has been such a joy to see some of you each morning, during Morning Announcements! We will be extending the opportunity for families to sign-up to lead announcements through the end of the year. I can't wait to see you in action!

Teachers will continue taking attendance and providing instructional continuity through distance learning. Please click here to review an outline of our [Instructional Continuity Plan 2020](#). St. Theresa offers two distance learning options, a High Tech Plan and a Low Tech Plan.

HIGH TECH PLAN- High Tech Distance Learning will be conducted utilizing asynchronous learning that will be managed through Google Classroom, teacher webpages and teacher emails. Limited Zoom Meetings will be conducted live by teachers based on grade level and focused on instructional support for assigned lessons and social-emotional needs of the students. Zoom meetings are NOT intended for synchronous learning.

LOW TECH PLAN- Low Tech Distance Learning will be conducted through weekly take-home packets. Families may opt to complete Take-home Packets for students to complete in 1-2 week intervals INSTEAD of completing online work and may arrange this option through the teacher. Teachers will work with admin and student families to arrange packet pick-up and drop off from school or mailing packets. Families may also scan and email student work for ongoing feedback. Teachers will grade packets and provide feedback upon packet completion. Students completing Take-Home packets are still required to check-in for attendance daily. Teachers will work with families on attendance check-in options.

In regards to school events that were scheduled for the remainder of the year, we have made the following updates:

- A. Gala- [STCS Under The Big Top Virtual Auction](#) will kick off April 24th!!
- B. School Raffle is LIVE right NOW! Click here...[STCS Big Top Raffle](#)
 - 5 night stay in Venice
 - \$1200 Handyman from Alair Homes
 - \$500 El Tiempo
 - 2 VIP tickets to 2021 Gala

- Oculus Quest VR Headset
- C. Theater Arts- postponed until Fall 2020
- D. Art Show- Virtual Museum online now! [STCS Virtual Museum 2019-2020](#)
- E. Sports Banquet- Virtual Awards will be posted in May
- F. Field Day-Cancelled
- G. Kinder graduation- Cancelled
- H. 8th grade DC trip- Cancelled
- I. 8th graduation- Postponed to July/Car Parade if Social Distancing is still mandated. More info to come!
- J. Summer reading Book Fair- online beginning May 13. More information on how to order books coming soon.
- K. Classroom Cleanouts- We will begin working on a scheduled plan for families to drop off textbooks, library books and any other school items. Families will also be able to pick-up all remaining student work and belongings. More info to come!

We truly understand that these are challenging times and we want to be here to help you in any way we can. If your child is struggling with the work, please reach out to the teachers, they will work with you to find an instructional plan that works best with your family's situation. Many of us are struggling to get it all done too, while working from home, helping our own children, managing family responsibilities...so we want to be here to support each other and make it as easy as possible. Let us know how you are doing! We will have a team reaching out to families to see how you are doing...if you see a call from the school, it's just us calling to check on you!

Be safe and be well! You are all in our prayers!

Melissa Ilski | Principal

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