



Good Afternoon

1 message

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Thu, Mar 19, 2020 at 11:37 AM

To: parents@stbenedictnj.org

Bcc: classroom_aides@stbenedictnj.org

Parents:

I hope everyone is having a good day and developing a routine. St. Benedict teachers are working unbelievably hard to provide a quality education for your children. They are embracing new technology and leaving their comfort zone. They are clearly putting the students first.

As I have been writing please take care of yourself and your children physically and mentally. The excitement of a new kind of learning is slowly wearing off and we all need to stay motivated. I am asking teachers to set up formalized "Office Hours" where they will be available to assist students in real time. This can be through apps such as Google Hangouts, Flip Grid, See- Saw, ect... Please understand they, just like your children cannot be glued to a screen all day long. Most of them have their own families and are assisting with their childs/childrens academic activities. I assure you they will respond, it just may not be instantaneously.

I had a conference call with Superintendent and other Principals in the Diocese this morning. We are in agreement that three to four hours of daily academic work is sufficient and appropriate. Anything more than that is too much.

I have spoken to a number of teachers and they TRULY miss your children and seeing them everyday. It takes truly special people to be Catholic School teachers and St. Benedict is luck to be full of them. Collectively, we are doing a great job! Anything new is a challenge and we are making things work. As time progresses (hopefully not too much) things will become second nature.

Be well and stay healthy.

Kevin

PS- I was interviewed by NJ 101.5 yesterday. I was told there will be a story up later this evening and on the radio tomorrow. I talked about the resiliency of St. Benedict students and our teachers commitment and willingness to embrace online learning.

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