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Hello Mountain Lion family,

I hope this communication finds you and your family healthy. We understand how challenging these past few weeks have been for everyone and we want everyone to know that we feel the same emotions as you. This has been a surreal time but I am sure we will get through this together.

Since we started Learning at Home two weeks ago our teachers, specialists, counselors, social workers and staff have connected with our students and families. Our teachers are embracing a new way of teaching, families are identifying new routines, and students are engaging in educational opportunities. During this challenging and uncertain time, we have stayed connected and our students have transitioned to learning at home. These efforts have also shown that together, we will get through this.

With the Governor's announcement to keep schools closed beyond April 10, our District and school leadership, Learners, Leaders, & Innovators team, and our teachers have worked collaboratively to further identify what Learning at Home will consist of for the remainder of the school year.

Our focus remains on the wellbeing of our students and families and on staying connected. We are committed to providing meaningful and relevant educational opportunities to engage students and to teaching the concepts and skills students need to be successful.

As we move forward with our Learning at Home, there are a few items that I want to share:

- For the remainder of the school year, our teachers will use Google Classroom for Learning at Home opportunities with their students. In addition, teachers may also connect with students through phone conversations, Zoom and email. Our teachers will also provide weekly feedback to parents/guardians about their student's progress. Our Summit teachers will continue to check in with our students and we are all available for any questions you may have.
- General Educational Opportunities: Teachers will continue to provide daily general educational
 opportunities (and feedback) utilizing technological resources to students they serve in their content
 areas or will provide alternatives if students cannot access technology and/or have alternative learning
 needs.
- Performance Tasks: In addition to general educational opportunities, teachers will identify a fourth
 quarter "performance task" for students to complete in each of their courses. Our teachers and
 leadership are working hard to ensure these tasks are relevant, meaningful, and focused on teaching
 the concepts and skills students need to be successful in college, career, and life.
 - Performance tasks are defined as any learning activity or assessment that asks students to
 perform and/or demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and proficiency. These tasks yield
 a tangible product and/or performance that serve as evidence of learning. Unlike a selectedresponse item (e.g., multiple-choice or matching) that asks students to select from given
 alternatives, a performance task presents a situation that calls for learners to apply their
 learning in context.

- General educational opportunities for each course will be designed to support successful completion of performance tasks.
- Teachers will administer performance tasks to students during the following windows:
 - Seniors: April 20- May 20
 - Freshmen- Juniors: April 27- May 20
- Grading: Formal grades and grading are suspended for the fourth quarter of the 2019-2020 school year.
 - Teachers will document fourth quarter <u>assignments</u> (not for a grade) in ParentVue (MUSD Connection) to show evidence of ongoing standards mastery. Although teachers will not issue fourth quarter grades, they will issue <u>semester grades</u> and <u>award academic credit</u> for high school courses.
 - Teachers and school leadership are committed to working with students to ensure successful completion of fourth quarter educational activities and assigned performance tasks.
 - Teachers will issue a semester grade that accounts for the performance task at the end of the semester. Semester grades will be based on a student's work on the performance task, work submitted fourth quarter during school closure, and third quarter performance.
 - Teachers may work with students who have completed the fourth quarter performance task to fill gaps exhibited during the third quarter so credit can be awarded and/or to improve their grade from third quarter.
 - Based on work completed during fourth quarter, a student's grade <u>may</u> improve, but it will <u>not</u> decline from the grade a student was issued third quarter.
 - Teachers will not withhold credit or a diploma from a student that is unable to participate in learning at home due to barriers created by the public health emergency.
- Dual Enrollment Courses: High school students enrolled in dual enrollment courses will continue to work with their dual enrollment teachers regarding remaining requirements for dual enrollment courses.
- Students currently enrolled in alternative education courses and Marana Distance Learning will
 continue to move forward with their coursework.
- Attendance will not be taken during the school closure.
- Testing
 - Standardized Testing: HB 2910 cancels the statewide assessment (AzM2, AIMS Science Test and MSAA) for the 2019-2020 school year for all students.
 - Civics Test: Per the Arizona State Board of Education, senior students are expected to
 complete the Civics Test. Students who still need this requirement will be assigned the Civics
 test through a secure browser in Synergy assessment. High School administration will work
 directly with seniors regarding this requirement. Regarding the Civics Test Graduation
 Requirement, students are still required by statute to receive a 60% or better on the Civics Test.
 As a reminder, students may take the assessment in a form and manner determined by the
 school district or charter school. Our schools will not withhold diplomas from a student that is
 unable to take the assessment due to barriers created by the public health emergency.
 - CPR Instruction: Per the Arizona Department of Education, senior students are expected to complete CPR instruction. Students who still need this requirement will be assigned to watch the SafeSchools CPR course through Synergy assessment and will take a brief quiz to verify completion. High School administration will work directly with seniors regarding this requirement. Our schools will not withhold diplomas from a student that is unable to participate in CPR instruction due to barriers created by the public health emergency.
 - AP Tests: AP Tests will be administered in an alternate format. The <u>College Board</u> website explains this process.
 - ACT: The administration of the ACT test is postponed to June 13, 2020.

Please note that all of this information is located on our District Learning at Home webpage at www.maranausd.org/learningathome. This page also has information regarding our District's commitment to Learning at Home and additional resources.

On behalf of Mountain View's teachers and staff, I want to thank you for your continued support and understanding as we navigate through this unprecedented time. We are family and we look forward to the day we are together again on our school campus. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Todd