



April 7, 2020

Dear Crosslake Community Families and Staff:

As we approach the end of our second week of Distance Learning due to COVID-19, I hope all of you are healthy and safe. As you are probably aware, the Governor of Minnesota has ordered that Distance Learning continue through Monday, May 4, with seat-based school resuming on May 5. However, there is speculation that Distance Learning may continue beyond May 4. I will let you know if we receive official word of any change.

Last week, CCS teachers began Distance Learning. This was a time of adjusting to a new way of doing things, a time to make sure students could access materials and ensure we had clear lines of communication.

During this second week of Distance Learning, we are settling into a schedule. While learning is still a key part of our day, it is important to note that no matter how smoothly Distance Learning goes, this is not school as usual. Our primary goal is to maintain strong relationships, to make sure we pay attention to those who are grieving, and to support our students in the best way possible during these stressful times.

I read an interesting article by two University of Georgia Department of Educational Theory and Practice professors, Stephanie Jones and Hilary Hughes. They said:

“This is not business as usual and it is unethical to act as if it could be. No one can (or should) expect the Covid-19 schooling happening at home to be anything close to usual, and perhaps this moment is providing all of us a chance to do something different: learn to be.

Learning to be will take some work, and maybe we're in a moment of system decompression right now. All of us: children, teenagers, college students, teachers, professors, administrators, parents, and guardians might finally be getting to a point of taking a collective deep breath.

There is no “transforming” face-to-face teaching and learning into Covid-19 teaching and learning overnight. And even if that was possible, doing so might not make sense in this time of national and global emergency.”



While I agree with Jones and Hughes, I also know that by providing our students with ongoing schooling gives them learning opportunities and a sense of normalcy.

Distance Learning Survey and Next Year's Enrollment Form

To ensure the best experience possible, CCS teachers are monitoring and adjusting their lessons and assignments on a daily basis. Our goal is to enable our students to continue learning and maintain a healthy emotional state. To help us achieve this goal, we would like to provide teachers with your feedback on Distance Learning. Please take a moment to complete this survey so that we can continue improving our processes:

<https://forms.gle/CvTTz2NmF4KdjAyy7>

Included in the survey is the enrollment form for the 2020-2021 School Year. Please indicate if you intend to have your student(s) enroll at CCS next year.

Graduation Ceremony

For our graduating seniors, we are waiting to see if governor's office, the Minnesota Department of Education, or the Minnesota Department of Health issue any directives before we make a decision about a graduation ceremony

During the statewide "Stay at Home" directive, CCS staff are working to engage with students and the CCS community. If you connect to our Facebook Page, you will find activities, announcements and calendar updates. Next week, beginning April 13, we encourage CCS community members--students, parents, guardians,siblings, and others--to participate in our Spirit Week. Post pictures on Facebook and share in the excitement and fun of being part of the CCSs community!

Keeping Everyone Safe

Out of concern for everyone in our community please continue to follow the practices of the CDC (Center for Disease Control) of "[How to Protect Yourself and Others](#)":

- Know the latest on how it spreads (Currently, person to person contact -- that is why Social Distancing is so important)
 - [Wash your hands](#) often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing



- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Practice Social Distancing
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth mask when around others
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Clean and disinfect
 - Clean AND disinfect [frequently touched surfaces](#) daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets and sinks.
 - If surfaces are dirty, clean them: Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

While we understand the challenges of the state's stay-at-home order and social distancing directives, our students need a safe environment to continue their education. You can provide that place!

If your student is having difficulties with Distance Learning, reach out to one of the teachers, or myself, to help with the situation. As Jones and Hughes say, "We have a collective opportunity to answer the call of our unprecedented time and make today's education as humane, generous, caring and yes, even as joyful as we possibly can."

Warmly,

Clifford A. Skagen,
Executive Director

SPIRIT WEEK

APRIL 13-17

MONDAY- PJ DAY

**TUESDAY- SPORTS FAN/
HAT DAY**

**WEDNESDAY -
MISMATCHED CLOTHES
DAY**

**THURSDAY - SCHOOL
SPIRIT CLOTHING DAY**

FRIDAY- CRAZY HAIR DAY

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO
PARTICIPATE ON OUR FB PAGE**

CROSSLAKEKIDS.ORG