

Dear Parents,

2020 continues to be a very interesting year here at Lindsay Thurber. While the news that we are moving back to online learning was disappointing, our school staff have been busy planning the last couple of days to ensure as good of transition as possible for students in our school. Our teachers and school staff have learned a lot about how to support online learning in the last 9 months and we are confident that we are ready to move successfully to online learning starting on Monday, November 30.

It is important to understand that online learning will look very different from the spring. Students will be required to connect each day online and follow their normal schedule, teachers will not just be posting assignments as we did in the spring but all classes will be live taught online. Starting Monday, teachers will be leading students through daily online lessons that may include teacher demonstration, class discussions, work time or answering individual student questions. In addition, we are putting a FLEX block into our online schedule so that students have a specific time to seek out additional help from teachers. We have made some adjustments to our regular timetable so classes will run as follows:

Period 1 - 8:45 - 9:45

Period 3 - 9:55 - 10:55

FLEX - 11:05 - 12:00 (FLEX allows students to get extra help from teachers outside of class)

Lunch - 12:00 - 1:00

Period 5 - 1:00 - 2:00

Period 7 - 2:15 - 3:15

Teachers will place links for each class on their Google Classrooms and students will be expected to attend during regular class times. Attendance will be taken and if students are not logged into class, the school will contact parents to inform them. Students will be expected to continue learning and completing assignments and their daily school schedule will be nearly the same, except it will move online.

Another big change will be in January. Traditionally, we have stopped in class teaching for almost two full weeks as students wrote final exams. This year there will not be final exam time, instead regular classes will extend for an additional two weeks. This will allow teachers extra teaching time with students to get them caught up on curriculum where they are behind or to complete any missing assignments. This year has been so challenging for both students and staff. We hope that by extending "in-class learning" in January, it will make it easier for students and staff to be better prepared for their next level of classes.

One other key difference is that unlike in the spring, schools are not closed. Staff will all be working at school and students and parents can come to the school to access resources by appointment. In some cases small groups of students will be attending school for specific reasons, such as to access specialized CTS equipment. Teachers will reach out to students and parents with appointment times.

We will be hosting our regular School Council meeting on Monday evening at 6:30pm and will follow that meeting with our school booster club meeting. At this time, we will try to answer any further questions parents may have. All parents are welcome to attend both of these meetings online. The link for the meeting is: <https://meet.google.com/eyo-odvc-aeH>

I understand that this will be a challenging time for students and parents. Rest assured, that our entire school staff will do all we can to support students during this online learning phase and we look forward to welcoming them back to “in-school learning” on January 11. Stay resilient and please feel free to contact the school if we can support you in any way.

Take Care,

Chris Good
Principal