

Webster Weekly 3-23-2020

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE:

Dear Webster Parents,

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, many of you are struggling with how to explain difficult events to your children. Sadly, we've grappled with talking to our children about tragic events a few too many times this year alone. I want to share a wonderful quote from *The Mister Rogers Parenting Book* which I find particularly comforting during this uncertain time. He said, **"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.'**" Given the current state of the global pandemic, I wanted to highlight his words. Perhaps you can engage in conversations with your children around the "helpers" of the world. Encourage them to write letters to first responders, doctors and health care providers. Consider sending an email to our very own Venecia Benjamin, Webster cafeteria manager who has been serving breakfast and lunch to families in our community every day since school has been closed. There are helpers doing great work right here in our community. There is always an opportunity to show our appreciation for helpers.

Dear Webster Students,

I really miss seeing your bright, smiling faces. Please know that I think of you every day when we are away from school. Please be patient and kind to your parents as they learn how to be your new "teacher." I am hopeful that you will place as much effort into your studies at home, as you do when you are at Webster. Learning is fun and must be so exciting when it's done at home; maybe in your pajamas! Be safe and take care of your families. I look forward to seeing some of you online in your classroom hangout!

Your proud principal,

Ms. Daruty

THIS WEEK AT WEBSTER:

School Closure: The Board of Education approved an emergency resolution, approving the closure of all Santa Monica and Malibu schools, Child Development Services and Adult School for five weeks, with the planned return of April 20, 2020. We will evaluate during this closure to determine whether an extension is recommended. This closure includes three weeks of regular session and two previously scheduled weeks of spring break. Effective, Tuesday, March 17, 2020, SMMUSD offices and schools are closed.

The Webster School field and playground will be closed. This includes after normal school hours and weekends. This will allow for the District to thoroughly cleanse and disinfect the campus.

Meal service: Children enrolled in any SMMUSD school or program will be able to pick up free breakfast and lunch from 7 to 9 a.m. at the following schools: Santa Monica High School, McKinley Elementary, Will Rogers Learning Community in Santa Monica and Webster Elementary in Malibu. SMMUSD families may go to any of these schools even if not enrolled there. All students under the age of 18 will be served. A parent or guardian must be present, except high school students may participate on their own. We are providing grab-and-go bagged meals. If you or your child are sick, do not come to school. Please note a time change: Beginning Tuesday, March 24th breakfast and lunch will be served at Webster from 8:00-10:00 a.m. Monday-Friday.

Click here for letter from superintendent, **Dr. Drati regarding layoffs, project-based learning and Frequently Asked Questions.**

Distance Learning Plans: If you were unable to pick-up your paper-based curriculum last Friday, a box with the packets was placed on the steps outside the Webster office. In preparation for school closure Webster teachers created three weeks of lesson plans. This plan includes a blend of paper based curriculum, digital learning through websites and platforms such as Google Classroom, See-saw or Zoom. The purpose of creating these plans is to provide a continuity of learning in most content areas while the schools are closed. Content areas include English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Art, P.E. and 3rd-5th grade music. The general guidelines for the SMMUSD are as follows:

- Kindergarten – Second Grade: 10 minutes per content area, per day
- Third – Fifth Grades: 20 minutes per content area, per day
- Preschool and TK teachers have also made distance learning plans and are communicating them with their students’ parents.
- If your child receives special education services your case-carrier or pathway coordinator will be contacting you to reschedule any IEPs scheduled during the closure or provide the team an alternative method to “meet”.
- All teachers will be available to answer your emails during school closure. They are eager to make every effort to stay in appropriate communication with your child during this crisis. If teachers have not heard from you at this point, I have asked them to reach out by phone to be sure you have the support you need.
- Many teachers have responded to your feedback and started sending daily lesson plans to supplement what was originally sent. They are working with you to support your students.
- At this time, there is **no expectation** for teachers to provide “real time” virtual lessons for distance learning. If school closures extend beyond April 20th, this will be possible. Please be supportive of their efforts to extend learning given they had only two days to put together three weeks of lessons. We meet regularly as a teaching staff and are adapting as quickly as possible. We appreciate your feedback and understand how challenging this shift is for everyone.
- I have asked that **ALL teachers explore and build their capacity to use digital platforms** for student engagement. Elementary children need socio-emotional connection and we want them to stay connected to their teachers and peers at Webster school. For teachers to provide this it

requires training, resources and time. I am so proud of many of our teachers for jumping right in. Webster teachers embody what it means to be a life-long learner.

- I meet regularly with the superintendent, SMMUSD principals and district office staff. During our meetings we collaborate, share best practices and make collective decisions regarding our next steps. I understand you may want to know if school will remain closed beyond April 20th. This decision has not been made. I will promptly communicate with you if/when this information changes.

Technology and Internet Use at Home: SMMUSD is preparing for the possibility that distance learning may extend beyond April 20th. In the event this may occur we would like to understand your home internet and computer access. Please take the time to complete the survey links below.

- SMMUSD Survey: TK-5 families, please let us know about home access to Internet and Home Computer: <https://bit.ly/3dhljrF>
- Encuesta SMMUSD de Acceso al Internet y computadora en su hogar: marzo del 2020. (TK-5) <https://bit.ly/3dhljrF>

California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) System and English Language Proficiency Assessments of California (ELPAC) Due to the unprecedented circumstances surrounding coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), The California Department of Education (CDE) is doing the following:

- Suspending all CAASPP testing
- Suspending Summative ELPAC testing
- Placing the Physical Fitness Test on hold until students return to school

In addition, if a school is back in session, the expectation is that the Initial ELPAC will be administered to students for initial identification, as required by California *Education Code* Section 313(a). However, Senate Bill 117 extended the timeline to conduct the Initial ELPAC by 45 days. The CDE will continue to make available the following resources to support teaching and learning:

- Practice tests, training tests, interim assessments, and Digital Library formative assessment tools and resources for CAASPP
- Practice tests and training tests for ELPAC

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. **PTA GENERAL MEETING**- postponed. A ZOOM meeting will be scheduled.
2. **JOG-A-THON**: March 26th will be postponed.
3. **OPEN HOUSE**: Thursday, April 2nd will be postponed and rescheduled for a later date.
4. **5th GRADE YOSEMITE CAMP**: April 27th-May 1st cancelled.
5. **4th Grade Astro CAMP**- April 29th- May 1st cancelled.

PTA NEWS:

COMMUNITY NEWS:

The Wellness Center at The Boys & Girls Club of Malibu has provided a “Wellness Together Booklet” attached handbook provided. It is in both English and Spanish.

The BGCM is actively preparing FREE grab and go pantry bags which can be picked up at the Teen Center Mon-Thu from 10am - 1pm. They are also providing FREE shopping services and groceries for seniors and our most vulnerable families. This FREE service is being provided by BGCM staff and generous community donations. If you know of a family or senior in need, please have them reach out today. (310-457-2582 or emergencyrelief@bgcmalibu.org MBGC is also offering counseling: [Link](#)

The BGCM and Waveside Church have partnered to meet the needs of our Senior Citizens and most vulnerable families. We have made the following *essential* services available in our community to our Senior Citizens and most vulnerable families. Please find the updated info for BGCM EMERGENCY RELIEF FOOD PANTRY. Learn more about this using the following link. <https://conta.cc/2QO213N>

SAFETY UPDATES AND REMINDERS:

For the latest COVID-19 information and news from SMMUSD please visit the link: <https://www.smmusd.org/Page/5437>

Governor Gavin Newsome issued a “Stay at Home” order on March 19th for all California residents, to address the Covid-19 pandemic. We understand that this is a new and challenging situation with many uncertainties. The Health Services team at SMMUSD is in regular contact with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) and the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE). At this time, there is substantial community spread and everyone must consider themselves exposed. <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/>

Please adhere to the following to keep yourself and others safe:

Social Distancing: Maintain 6 ft. distance when outside of the home

Hand Hygiene

Wash hands or use Hand Sanitizer frequently

Don't touch your face

Cough/sneeze in elbow (Cover your cough and sneeze/preferably use tissue)

Clean and disinfect high touch areas

Symptoms 2-14 days after exposure range from

MILD (which helps it spread easily) to **severe** and **fatal**.

Call your doctor: if you experience fever, cough or shortness of breath.

Call 911: if you experience **difficulty breathing**.

Stay Home- *If anyone in your household has symptoms, everyone needs to stay home for 7 days or 72 hours after fever, whichever is longer.*

Limit ALL contact within your household.

Please inform your principal or site nurse via email for concerns regarding any respiratory illness, exposure or potential exposure to Covid-19. District nurses will follow all directives from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Due to HIPPA compliance, nursing staff will not report test results or share confidential health information unless directed by the LACDPH. At this time, we have not received reports of any positive cases of Covid-19 in our schools.

If you need assistance finding a medical provider or for mental health services, call 211.

Please see below for contact information for local health providers.

Providence Saint Johns -Call your provider or schedule a [Virtual Visit](#).

Kaiser Permanente-Call 1-833-KP4CARE (1-833-574-2273) or to schedule an [e-visit](#).

UCLA-Contact your provider or go [myUCLAHealth](#) to schedule.

Venice Family Clinic- 310-392-8636

Additional community and mental health resources: <https://bit.ly/2Qu2xn8>

OTHER INFORMATION:

5th Grade Yosemite Nature Bridge Trip has been cancelled. Please contact Jessie Muchmore, Webster PTA treasure to receive your refund jessiemuchmore@gmail.com. If you paid through Parent Square the charge will be refunded to your card. If you paid by check please provide your mailing address in your email. A check will be mailed home. Any student who submitted spending cash for the store, will receive a check via mail. Please allow us 2-3 weeks to process and provide refunds. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Daruty.

A Message from Nature Bridge:

“The news about COVID-19 continues to evolve rapidly and the impact on our communities weighs heavily on everyone’s mind. We were excited to welcome your students to NatureBridge this spring however, we also acknowledge the reality of what is going on in the world and our social responsibility to our staff, your students and the global community. The safety of our staff and participants remains our number one priority. Following the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization, **NatureBridge will suspend programs and operations on all campuses through May 3, 2020 as the most effective social distancing measure.**”

COMMUNICATION: Are you receiving emails, blackboard messaging and school updates? 1) Please stop by the office to make sure you are on school our notification list and that your contact information is correct. 2) The PTA sends out the weekly newsletter from the Membership Toolkit Platform. You will need to enter/update your information in the toolkit in order to receive the newsletter. You can sign up here: websterpta.membershiptoolkit.com. 3) Consider downloading the SMMUSD application to your smartphone. Search SMMUSD and download today!

LOST AND FOUND: Items were brought inside and placed on the stage in the auditorium. They will remain there until we safely return to school.

SUMMER SCHOOL 2020: Please be on the lookout for invitations for your child to participate in the 2020 Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District’s Intensive Intervention Summer School (IISS). They were sent out Friday, March 6th. IISS is a four-week summer school program designed to stretch students who may need additional academic support in English Language Arts and Mathematics. The curriculum for the IISS program is focused, rigorous and engaging. The IISS elementary program is for students who are currently in grades 1st- 4th grade. Students qualify for participation in IISS based on their district assessment scores. Current 5th graders who qualify will receive an invitation to the middle school program. There is no cost for your child’s participation in IISS. IISS will take place: Thursday, June 18 – Wednesday, July 15 from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm each day. Note that Friday, July 3rd is a holiday. Location: Malibu Elementary School 6955 Fernhill Drive Malibu, CA 90265 (for students attending Malibu schools).