



GEORGIA ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL
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Dear Families:

I am writing to provide a written update since our last communication. I hope you all are safely navigating these challenging times and that you are getting what you need from our school. We continue the process of adapting and transforming to meet the needs of students and families during this COVID-19 crisis.

As a result of Governor Scott's decision for students to engage with remote learning for the remainder of the year, on **Monday, April 13, 2020 all FWSU schools will begin the Continuity of Learning phase.**

Our priorities throughout the rest of the year are: **Health and Safety, Equity, Relationships, and Remote Learning.** This phase promotes the continuation of teaching and learning of new, essential skills and concepts despite circumstances that interrupt normal school attendance.

Important reminders about “Continuity of Learning Phase” required by the Agency Of Education:

- We are required to take **daily student attendance**. Students will need to connect with their teachers every day. This can be in the form of a Seesaw work submission, email, or Freckle work completion as examples.
- We are required to **monitor your child's progress of learning**. So it is imperative that your child is connecting on a daily basis with their teacher and that families are letting their teacher know if they require additional support.
- We will continue to communicate **weekly learning activities** that teachers have been sharing with you using the same format.
- We fully recognize the burden that remote learning is placing on our learners, their families and siblings. We need to emphasize that students should spend **no more than:**
 - PreK and Kindergarten- **45 minutes total/per day**
 - Grades One and Two- **60 minutes total/day**
 - Grades Three and Four- **90 minutes total/day**
- Further guidance from the VT AOE for [Grade pk-4](#) families.

Spring Break:

The Secretary of Education, Dan French, has advised schools to follow their school calendar. That means that school **will not be in session the week of April 20-24. Teachers will not be available during this week. However, we will continue to deliver daily meals during this week.**

Live Video Conferencing:

Live video conferencing with all elementary schools in FWSU is not being offered at this time. Although we understand the need and value of using live video conferencing tools with students, our elementary schools are currently unable to support use with PreK-4 students. Our primary concerns center around **equity and safety**. We will continue to revisit this decision as new resources and updates to existing resources evolve. We appreciate your support on this decision and your continued patience as we work to develop a plan that will ensure safety and equity for all students and families to participate.

Food:

We are able to provide food for all children ages 18 and under. We have a delivery system in place for a daily breakfast and lunch. If you would like to add your family to our delivery list, please complete [this form](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support and flexibility during this challenging time. I am so appreciative of all our families and staff that have been so flexible, hard working, and focused on supporting all students and families. The video of our staff, being sent out today, and the student responses I observe through Seesaw reminds me how fortunate we all are to work and live in a community that is committed to supporting each other. We will get through this challenging time because we are in this together. Please reach out to me if I can support you and your family in any way.

Respectfully,

Steve Emery
Georgia Elementary School Principal