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April 30, 2020

Dear parents,

I hope this message finds you and your family doing well. I certainly miss seeing your children in the building. As we are just past the midpoint of the 4th quarter, many questions have been asked about grading with good reason. Please know that as challenging as this all has been, students are still earning grades and there will definitely be a fourth quarter report card. To that end, teachers have now begun entering the grades into FOCUS for the work that has been submitted. And here is the most important point: It is extremely important that all students submit the work that is being expected and required by their teachers—school is still in session. This is critical for calculating overall grades for each subject during this last quarter. Likewise, please know that all the lessons in this fourth quarter are benchmark based as always and it is important that all students do their very best to master these benchmarks in preparation for whatever is ahead. Having said that, we certainly understand that submitting work might be challenging for some. To that end, please communicate with your child’s teacher if this is an issue so that together you can find a quick resolution.

Finally, it is important to note that the calculated fourth quarter grade will be compared to the average of the first, second, and third quarter grades. The higher of these two grades will be the fourth quarter grade in that subject. Please be advised that a student must be regularly submitting work in order for a 4th quarter grade to be calculated. Absent regular work, we will default to the average of the first three nine-week grading periods. Please give this thoughtful consideration because the overarching goal is still the same: We want all students to be well prepared for the next school year however that unfolds and there is no “short cut” for being fully prepared!

In summary, it is also important to note that student success for this school year will not be measured by any one grading period alone but rather by the totality of all four grading periods. It is from this analysis that we can all craft a plan for what is best for each student for next school year.

Thank you for all that you are doing to support your child and for working with the Kate Sullivan Elementary staff. We know it is not easy. As always, please feel free to contact Ms. Sperling or me with your questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Bryan
Principal

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