Dear Parkview Families,

We know and understand there is a lot of change and uncertainty at this time. Your family’s health and well-being is always our priority and we are committed to continuing your child’s education while away from school due to COVID-19 (coronavirus). Governor Tim Walz has declared that all schools in Minnesota will begin offering distance learning this coming Monday through at least April 30. At this time, the governor is asking schools to prepare for students returning to school buildings on Tuesday, May 5. Please keep in mind that these plans could change. This message is to provide you with an overview of our distance learning plans.

Why distance learning days?
Our distance-learning plan provides students with new learning and sustains previous learning. Our task is to create meaningful experiences related to learning goals and outcomes, aligned with state academic standards. With your help at home, we can make instruction and learning as meaningful as possible.

About distance learning
- Focuses on the most critical learning goals to make learning manageable for everyone.
- Requires less school time than a face-to-face school day.
- Establishes routines and structures that support students and families.
- Provides instruction that meets the needs of all learners to the best extent possible.
- Leverages digital tools that students are already familiar with.

How distance-learning days work
- Students should check Seesaw (kindergarten – grade 3), Google Classroom (grades 4 – 6), or Schoology (grades 7 – 8) for a daily message from their teachers.
- For the first few weeks, Seesaw, Google Classroom or Schoology will be used for two-way communication with teachers and families. Beginning March 30, by 9 a.m. each day, classroom teachers will be posting daily.
- If you have not previously used Seesaw or if you have not received an invitation via email from your student’s teacher, please contact your child’s teacher. Invitations for Google Classroom and Schoology are not needed at this time.
- Instruction will be both electronic and/or using paper and other materials during the first two weeks. Students will use Seesaw (kindergarten – grade 3), Google Classroom (grades 4 – 6), or Schoology (grades 7 – 8).
- Materials for the next two weeks, March 30 – April 10, have been distributed in different ways. There have been material pickups at schools and deliveries made to homes. We are also organizing distribution of materials by bus.
• Teachers will be available during the school day to answer questions and provide guidance as noted in the staff availability section below.
• We want to ensure that students have the social and emotional support they need during distance learning. All teachers will incorporate social and emotional support for students in their instruction daily. If you feel your child needs additional support, please contact your school social worker, psychologist or another trusted adult.
• We want children to feel cared for and supported by their school community and trusted adults they have relationships with.
• Please review the distance learning student/family checklist as a way to be sure your family is ready for distance learning.

Staff availability
Teachers will be available for students and families daily, Monday-Friday between 9 – 11 a.m. and 1 – 3 p.m.
We will be following the same school calendar regarding non-school days (e.g., April 10 is a non-school day). Elementary teachers will post online learning activities or guidance each day before 9 a.m. Teachers who specifically support special education, 504 plans, intervention, and English learner programming will reach out to students and families to provide support and learning.

Daily Time Commitments & Routines
The guidelines for student time commitments are not to exceed 60% of a class period or school day:
• Grades K – 2: Approximately 1 – 2 hours per day.
• Grades 3 – 6: Approximately 2 – 3 hours per day; this includes homework.
• Grades 7 – 8:
  o 7th Grade Communication & Schedules
  o 8th Grade Communication & Schedules

If students are not available during 9 – 11 a.m. or 1 – 2 p.m., they can do their learning another time. Teachers and schools will communicate more with individual families regarding what this will look like for your child.

We will improve our distance learning as teachers and students become more comfortable, so expect that distance learning may change overtime. We are doing all we can to set students and teachers up for success. We also want to gather feedback from students, families and staff to learn what is working and what is not. We will continue to work closely with students and families to review distance learning and your students’ needs. Please visit isd623.org/covid19 for the latest information about how our schools are responding to the spread of COVID-19.

Student support
We want to ensure that students have the academic, social and emotional support they need during distance learning. Teachers will be connecting with students as part of their instruction. If you feel your child needs
additional support, please contact your school social worker, psychologist or another trusted adult. We want students to feel cared for and supported by their school community and trusted adults.

**PCS Student Support**

**Student services**
Teachers who specifically support special education, 504 plans, intervention, and English learner programming will reach out to students and families to provide support and learning.

**Attendance**
Students are expected to attend daily and attendance will be monitored. For students in grades 7 and 8, access to Schoology will indicate attendance for distance learning. Teachers will monitor attendance for elementary students. Families will continue to report absences in the same way by contacting the school.

**Communication**
Students can contact teachers via Seesaw, Google Classroom and Schoology message, email or by leaving a voicemail on the teacher’s school phone. Families can communicate with teachers by email or voicemail on the teacher’s school phone.

**Assessment and grading**
In grades 7 and 8, Schoology will be the primary platform for classroom assessments. In kindergarten through grade 6, teachers will continue to grade work and provide feedback to students. Teachers will be flexible with due dates due to the unique situations in which students may find themselves. There will be no penalty for late work.