

REMS Community Zoom Meeting
Hosted by the Parent Crew Board
Wednesday, April 1st

Main Question: How is remote learning going so far?

Feedback:

- 2nd grade has felt like the structure of their remote learning has been organized and straightforward. Thank you to Gina and Dana! Other parents from other grades felt similarly! We are all so appreciative of how smooth our teachers have made this difficult transition.
- Based on what parents have been hearing about families from other schools, it feels like our structure has been more conducive to the needs of different families.
- The message coming from REMS has been positive, encouraging, and there's been an understanding for parents to not stress out too much about the process.
- Parents have liked having the Zoom morning meetings-it has maintained some sense of normalcy to see and hear their teachers
- The remote learning structures have been a good pace to allow for space to play
- The teachers' "Daily To-Dos" have been helpful and accepting that not everything can or will get done.

Some things people have been doing:

- There are different Facebook groups for different crews and that has been helpful to share different ideas
- Some families have coordinated Zoom charade games and hangman
- 2nd-grade families did a Zoom meeting together with knock-knock jokes
- Many families have been using various daily meditation apps for quick meditations (Calm app and other free apps)
- Elementary school counselors are meeting and creating their own documents to make available for families as well
- Ms. Terri and Ms. Allison have both been making themselves available in a variety of ways to touch base with students:
 - Terri has been using Google "Hangout" and has been talking about the following with students:
 - Feelings of being overwhelmed
 - Sharing her website link with resources
 - What we can and cannot control
 - Coping skills we can use when feeling big emotions
 - Students can connect with Terri throughout the school day, if needed, for 10-15 minute sessions
 - Minimizing stress during this time (This doesn't need to be stressful)

Upcoming Ideas and Issues to Navigate:

- How can we better support various families (families with a stay-at-home parent, single-parent families, families where parents are working from home, etc.)
- How can we create a central place for all families to share successful ideas? (Look for a shareable document with various categorized ideas on our REMS Facebook page soon!)

- How can we better share the successful platforms with teachers because they are working hard?
- How can we continue to help our students with anxiety?
- How can we get information out there to our REMS community without creating more of an information-overload?
 - Weekly newsletters will still be going out electronically, but not for another week (to avoid the overload)
 - Crew parent emails will also continue with information as well
- What is it that people need?
- Terri is going to sort out strategies that may be the most helpful for the situation we're in.
- Yearbook is going to be adding a section that includes this remote learning
- Moving to "new" learning concepts (versus the review we've been doing this week):
 - What will the expectations be for grading and assessing what the students are learning
 - Directive to keep it simple
 - What will the district's learning expectations be?
 - More to come on this ever-evolving situation

Future REMS Community Zoom Meetings:

- We'd like to continue these community Zoom meetings
 - We want to make sure parents can log on and interact when they're ready
 - Let's explore a time change if 7pm is too difficult with bedtime (Rachael will put together a quick survey on Facebook to ask parents about this)
 - Now that we've gotten the ball rolling we'd like to have a more focused topic for each weekly meeting but always with the open-door policy that anyone can join in and ask any questions even if it's not the designated topic.
 - Allison, Jodi, and Terri can give us feedback about what issues they're seeing so we can address them together in the meeting
 - Terri wants to provide support for the whole family ... not just the students
 - Having meetings on a regular basis can offer a sense of connection and community for the adults
 - Next meeting topic: Challenges of remote learning

"We are crew, not passengers, strengthened by acts of consequential service to others."

-Kurt Hahn

