SMETHPORT AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
414 South Mechanic Street
Smethport, Pennsylvania 16749
814 · 887 · 5012

March 30, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We have been concerned for the health and well-being of our students and families and are truly hoping that everyone is well. Certainly, we miss seeing our students' smiling faces every day! Our school and community has once again proven to be a supportive family by maintaining the health and safety of all who live here. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our healthcare professionals, delivery drivers, grocery store employees, first responders, and all other essential employees. The school district is now able to focus on our biggest strength - educating students, just in a different way than we have in the past.

Through hard work and determination, our faculty and staff at Smethport Area School District has ensured there is a plan in place to educate our students and address the needs in our school community. You may have already received the at-home learning guide in the mail along with your child's report card. Please know that you can always check the Smethport Area School District website for up-to-date information (https://www.smethportschools.com/). Simply click on "School Closure Information" and scroll down to your child's grade level link. All hotlinks are active so that students can go directly to the various websites.

Teachers have a plan to contact parents via phone, email, and/or classroom apps, such as Class Dojo or Remind. Many teachers have discussed ways to video conference with you and your child to discuss reading material or practice math facts. Students can utilize online resources such as Reflex Math or Study Island to practice as well. Since not all communities in our district have access to

internet, many teachers will be calling via phone simply to check in and discuss enrichment and review activities with you and your child. We want to support our families during this unusual time without overwhelming them with requirements. Therefore, we will be in the enrichment and review mode throughout the rest of the closure.

Families can expect faculty members to reach out via phone throughout the week. Learning resources will be updated through the website for at-home learning bi-weekly, focusing on ELA and Math on a rotating basis. Teachers will update their learning apps several times each week as well. Students are encouraged to participate in phone calls and activities throughout the closure. Their participation will be analyzed for feedback and planning purposes.

Together in the weeks ahead our district will do the best we can to support our families, grow our students' minds, and move forward with review and enrichment activities. However, you are the parents. You have the permission and control to adjust any schoolwork as needed to meet the needs of your family. Faculty members will be very gracious about your requests regarding phone calls, emails, etc. Communication during this time is key on all levels. If at any point you have questions or a request for additional supports, please contact your child's teacher or the Elementary Office.

In closing, we are Smethport Hubbers! We can overcome obstacles, learn and grow educationally, and be proud of who we are and what we stand for. Even during this challenging time, families have the support of the school and community. Feel free to contact me anytime to discuss our educational plan so that appropriate adjustments can be made for you and your family as we move forward during this closure. We are looking forward to a magnificent new adventure and hoping to build lasting relationships along the way.

Yours in education,

Ms. Kristin Zona
Elementary Principal