

Happy Friday CMS Families!

Our opening week for the 2021 portion of the year has been interesting. Between the incident in Washington DC and dealing with potential Covid exposure here on campus, I can't say it feels like a great start or a new beginning. I do know however, that we will continue to demonstrate strength and resolve and that we will continue to rise to meet the challenges we are faced with. With that in mind, it is always important to find and focus on the things we have that are positive during challenging times... to find some beauty in the world, excitement in our lives, or simply find some reasons to smile. It's important to focus on the positives in your life and remember that we are blessed with many positive things including family, friends, a wonderful community, and the beautiful area in which we live. I hope that we can remain focused on these blessings as we continue to collectively work through the challenges placed before us.

Congratulations to this week's Cougar Pride Spirit Day Winners!

6th Grade: Gia Smith

7th Grade: Lily Biggs

8th Grade: Minna Trokel

CMS Staff Member: Ms. Baird

The CMS PTO and Leadership Class hope you enjoy your gift cards that will be mailed to your homes very soon! Go Cougars!

Covid Exposure Protocols

We received a few questions, particularly from people who have students already on campus, regarding the exposure announcement we sent out earlier this week. As we continue to work to open additional cohorts and bring more students to campus I want to clarify one important item related to our communication protocols.

If your student is in a cohort or any situation in which we know they have been potentially exposed to Covid 19 you will receive a personalized communication from CMS via text and email. The text will let you know to check your email and the email will provide you with all the details you need to understand our process and procedures. A general communication will then go out to our entire school community providing an overview of the situation. This email will usually be sent within 24 hours of the initial situation and will follow the personalized communication sent initially to those students/families most at risk.

If your student is on campus and you do not receive a specific email stating that their cohort or group has had exposure AND that the cohort or group is being closed, then your child was in a separate group, isolated from potential spread of the virus, and we do not believe they are at risk of infection due to their presence on campus.

In an attempt to communicate more clearly I will include a disclaimer, in bold, on the general letter that goes out to all families.

I hope this helps clear up any confusion or misunderstandings now and moving forward.

Incident in Washington DC

Regardless of your personal political views, the incident we watched occur in Washington DC this week was a concerning event that many people are still trying to process. Our 7th grade social studies teachers conducted a great forum immediately after this event allowing students the opportunity to process and discuss what they witnessed. Our district has put together some resources for teachers, students, and families to aid in any discussions you may be having in your home regarding this incident. Feel free to follow this link if you feel the need to do so.

[January 6, 2021](#)

2nd Quarter Report Cards in the Mail

Report cards are on the way! Be sure to beat your child to the mailbox for the next few days if you'd like to see how they finished the second quarter. (Anyone out there remember when report cards were just handed to the kids and we had to take them home and get them signed). Anyway, Aeries is still a great tool to keep up with your student's progress, but, if you like to be surprised and didn't check Aeries at all during the quarter, final grades should be in your mailbox soon!

On a positive note, I was just informed that we had 411 students make the Honor Roll this quarter with Grade Point Averages above 3.00. That's just over 70% of our students maintaining a 3.00 GPA or better in a very challenging educational environment. Well done Cougars!!!

3rd Quarter Supply Pick Up Update

Take two...

3rd quarter supply pick up has been rescheduled for Friday, January 15th. On the 15th we will be cancelling all afternoon classes to allow for the staffing of this event as well as providing a window for students enrolled in afternoon classes the opportunity to pick up supplies without

missing their classes. Supply pick up will now take place between 12:00 and 3:00 PM. If you are unable to make that window of time, please let us know and we'll work something out.

Thank you!

Our Next PTO Meeting will take place Wednesday, January 13th beginning at 9:30 AM. We'd love to have you attend the online meeting if you can make it. Look for a link in a future email!

That's all for today! Have a wonderful weekend!