Good evening CMS Families,

I hope this letter finds you healthy and safe!

Without “regular” school taking place I’m finding it challenging to find fun things to write about. I also find that I really miss the end of year energy that keeps us on our toes and generates so much excitement as the year heads toward it’s close. Over the next few weeks we’ll be releasing our 3rd trimester grading policy, engaging in conversations about our end of year events, and we’ll continue in our efforts to determine a positive course of action for next year. Thank you for your continued patience through this challenging time and please continue to hang in there with everyone to help keep our community healthy and safe!

**Coffee with the Superintendent**

This morning, Mrs. Kasper and I had the privilege of being the guests at our Superintendent’s early morning coffee. I don’t think anyone was actually drinking coffee and we were all on zoom, but, we did get to engage in some open discussions about school, our process and thinking in creation of the block schedule, and we collected some great ideas from parents about ways to improve our offerings moving forward. These conversations are valuable on many levels and I wanted to extend my appreciation to those who took the time to participate. Please keep your eyes and ears open for future opportunities to contribute your thoughts and ideas to the various systems and programs we’ll be running in the future. Your participation and input is truly valued and appreciated!

**FOCUS Needs You!**

Come join the FOCUS Board! FOCUS supports quality education within the Carmel Unified School District and since its founding has provided close to $3,000,000 in grants that support academic and social-emotional student success. Several FOCUS Board members have students leaving CUSD in 2020 or 2021. We need parents to join the Board so that they can shadow in the 2020/2021 school year for the positions of President and Treasurer. We will also
be losing our Secretary this year, so we need to fill that position for the 2020/2021 school year. If you are interested, please contact Kath Uyeda at: kuyeda@zcheetah.com.

Looking for Some Fun?

Enter the First Annual CMS Rube Goldberg Machine Engineering Challenge!

In a collaborative effort between our science department and Mr. Ishler, CMS is excited to host our first ever Rube Goldberg Machine Engineering Challenge. What is a Rube Goldberg Machine? A Rube Goldberg machine is a machine intentionally designed to perform a simple task in an indirect and overly complicated way. Usually, these machines consist of a series of simple unrelated devices; the action of each device triggers the initiation of the next, eventually resulting in achieving a stated goal.

Here is the link to the covid-19 related goal of the contest, a description of contest requirements, and a list of the prizes we’re offering for contest winners. The contest is open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. Rube Goldberg Machine videos must be submitted to Mr. Ishler no later than Friday, May 15th. This gives you three weeks to turn your home into a crazy mixture of science and engineering all for the simple purpose of dispensing soap into someone’s hands! Have fun!!!

Rube Goldberg Machine Engineering Challenge

Need Support?

We continue to hear reports of kids struggling with academics and social emotional challenges during this time. If you see, or feel, that your child is struggling in this setting for any reason, please consider reaching out to our counseling team. Both counselors are able and willing to email, speak on the phone, and will meet with your child face to face on zoom or google if this is helpful. Please reach out for help if you feel the need. We want to make sure that everyone gets through this challenging time in a healthy manner!

Last names A-K: Sarah Greco - sgreco@carmelunified.org
Instructional Reminder

Just a friendly reminder that I’ll be sending out this week’s schedule and grade level links on Sunday after 5:00 PM.

Thanks again for all the work you’re doing at home to keep our students engaged and learning!

With warm regards,

Dan Morgan