MORCS Executive Administrator Board Report 3.30.2020



I. Distance Learning Update

MORCS has been providing distance learning for all students since Tuesday, March 17th, and will continue to provide distance learning until the school campus re-opens. Teachers and students observe the following weekly schedule, primarily using Google Classroom and Google Meet to communicate learning activities with students, to provide interactive online lessons, and to provide face-to-face student support.

Distance Learning Guidelines for Students (7th and 8th grade)

All students will please observe the following schedule for instruction and support during the closure of the MORCS campus.



Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Block 1: 9:00-10:30am	Staff Planning and Collaboration Teachers and staff will use this time to plan lessons, grade assignments, and ensure that student questions are replied to.	English Block Teachers offer opportunities for interactive lessons/ activities at this time. Students complete English work during this time.	Math Block Teachers offer opportunities for interactive lessons/ activities at this time. Students complete Math work during this time.	English Block Teachers offer opportunities for interactive lessons/ activities at this time. Students complete English work during this time.	Math Block Teachers offer opportunities for interactive lessons/ activities at this time. Students complete Math work during this time.
Block 2: 10:30-12:00pm		History Block Teachers offer opportunities for interactive lessons/ activities at this time. Students complete History work during this time.	Science Block Teachers offer opportunities for interactive lessons/ activities at this time. Students complete Science work during this time.	History Block Teachers offer opportunities for interactive lessons/ activities at this time. Students complete History work during this time.	Science Block Teachers offer opportunities for interactive lessons/ activities at this time. Students complete Science work during this time.
Lunch: 12-1pm	Teachers may provide additional	Lunch			
Block 3: 1:00-2:30pm	learning opportunities for students at this time.	Elective Block Teachers offer opportunities for interactive lessons/ activities at this time. Students complete Electives work during this time.	P.E. Block Teachers offer opportunities for interactive lessons/ activities at this time. Students complete P.E. work during this time.	Elective Block Teachers offer opportunities for interactive lessons/ activities at this time. Students complete Electives work during this time.	P.E. Block Teachers offer opportunities for interactive lessons/ activities at this time. Students complete P.E. work during this time.
"After School" Support 3:00-6:00pm		Think Together Staff provide support for students in all subject areas including enrichment.	Think Together Staff provide support for students in all subject areas including enrichment.	Think Together Staff provide support for students in all subject areas including enrichment.	Think Together Staff provide support for students in all subject areas including enrichment.

Guidelines and expectations for all students:

- 1. While the MORCS campus is closed, academics will continue online for all students. Students should be checking their email and google classroom daily.
- 2. The common schedule above is designed so that students have a clear focus for each day / time.
- 3. Students will complete and submit assignments and assessments which will be recorded in the gradebook.
- 4. Teachers, administrators, and all other support staff will be available via email as well as other platforms such as Google Meet to ensure the continuation of student learning.

Teachers also employ online instructional tools such as iReady, Achieve 3000, Khan Academy, Kahoot, Quizizz, padlet, Google Jam, Google Docs, Screencastify, and many more resources to keep students engaged with distance learning.

II. Technology Access for all Students

125 students and families surveyed (out of 360 total) did not have access to technology at home. For these students, we have sent home printed packets for students to work on, with our Instructional Aides making phone calls to each of these students to ensure that the packets have been received and to provide support in

completing the learning activities. The packets focus on grade-level English and Math standards, but also include learning activities from Science, History, P.E., and Elective classes.

On campus, we have a 1-to-1 ratio of computers to students, specifically Macbook Airs. However, these machines are arranged in computer carts of 30 in each classroom and are not easily made mobile since the chargers are embedded into the computer cart. Instead, we are placing an order for 102 chromebooks (in addition to 23 chromebooks already on site), that we intend to deploy to each household within the next 5-10 days, allowing us to ensure that our students and families have access to technology that they can use for distance learning. We have also provided families with information that will allow them to access two months of free wireless internet provided by Spectrum. We have also connected parents with vendors who can provide affordable internet access after the free period has ended.

III. Communication with Families

We are communicating with families primarily through the Remind system, which allows us to text all parents and also provide attachments such as pdf files and videos with important information regarding the school closure, distance learning, and how to access food pickup provided at nearby centers. The operations team is also making individual phone calls to families, targeting those whose students have not been attending the online sessions. As mentioned before, instructional aides are making individual support calls to students who reported not having technology access at home.

Early next week, we are preparing a mass mailout of report cards, updates regarding distance learning (including a printout of the schedule which they previously received electronically), and a second round of work packets for students without technology access, which should allow them to stay engaged in learning until we are able to deploy the chromebooks.

III. Staff Communication

Staff have been checking in on Google Meet three times a week. We discuss the successes and challenges of distance learning utilizing the same tools for our discussions that we employ with the students! Spirits are high as teachers are excited to utilize new tools and get students engaged in ways they have not been previously. Below is a "Google Jam" of teacher feedback from one of our check-ins last week:

