31 March 2020

2:30 pm

Good afternoon parents**,**

This is Coach McAuley checking in. I truly hope each of you is doing well and that your families and extended families are all safe.

None of us have ever been through anything like this before; as we go forward, I truly hope that good will emerge even as we mourn loss. This will make us a stronger community. I have seen more people taking family walks and playing games than I have in years. So with apologies to High School Musical, *we are all in this together*. And we will get through it.

I’m sure you have already received several emails from other teachers before this one, and I’m sure they all looked similar. If your first emails arrived yesterday, they are already out of date as we will now be “distance learning” at least until the end of April with the possibility of the rest of this school year. In every facet of life right now, an answer is obsolete by the time it is posted.

In terms of school, my philosophy is going to be as relevant as possible. Our first two weeks are collaborative units which means every student is doing the same assignment as every other similarly placed student. Our assignments are a book review project. It should be a good, fun way to get back into the swing of things.

Educationally, there are several things that we still have on the table: most importantly, Shakespeare. *Julius Caesar* (10th) and *Romeo and Juliet* (9th). After this first two-week period, I hope to be good enough with Teams and its interface to be able to successfully cover those two works.

Teams are Microsoft’s version of Google Classroom. Many other school systems use GC—some of you may be familiar. This is my first experience with the teams. I will upload the lesson/assignments tomorrow April 1st (no foolin’) with a start date for students on April 2nd. Students will access their classes and assignments in Microsoft Teams by logging into their ClassLink account.

I will also post all of this on my website: coachmcauley.weebly.com

If your student will not have access to a device and/or Internet service, we will be providing hard copy packets of the work for pick-up. If your student will need a packet, please call the school (850) 916-4100 to set up an appointment time for pick-up. The school building will remain closed and a staff member will bring the work to your car as you pull up, so please make sure you set up an appointment ahead of time.

In another change from yesterday, these assignments will now be graded. I will be providing feedback and interacting with students through Microsoft Teams. If you have any class/lesson questions, please feel free to ask me. If you have any questions regarding the district’s plans or updates moving forward, please visit the Santa Rosa County School District website or email [DOC@santarosa.k12.fl.us](mailto:DOC@santarosa.k12.fl.us).

Thank you and always let me know if you have any questions,

*Earle McAuley*

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*Hours available 9-3 M-F*

*coachmcauley.weebly.com*