

DePaolo families,

I cannot believe today is the last day of April. This month flew by (of course it helped to have a week of vacation). I hope you all are having a good Friday and are looking forward to the weekend. Below are some items to share with all of you today:

Remote Learning:



Please note that the intention of changing to remote learning should be for COVID or other medical reasons ONLY.

After Hours COVID Exposure:

The district has established a dedicated phone line and link for Covid-19. If you need to report a confirmed case of Covid outside of school hours, please call our district Confirmed Covid-19 after hours hotline at 860-628-3200 ext. 10213 or notify the district via our online portal by clicking on the following link:

[Southington Public Schools Confirmed Covid 19 Reporting Portal](#)

I will continue to be available for all of you and you can contact me on my cell phone (860) 919-5001, **however please be sure to also inform the district using one of the methods described above.**

Health Class:

All families should have received an email from me yesterday with a letter attached regarding topics that will be covered in the health curriculum in the coming weeks. If you have any questions specific to the health curriculum, please contact Ms. Phillips at kphillips@southingtonschools.org.

Smarter Balanced Testing:



We have been informed by the Connecticut Department of Education that all schools will be conducting Smarter Balanced Assessments this spring. As you know, there was no testing last year, and the data we collect from this year's testing will be important in determining the impact of the pandemic on our students. Mark your calendars. All students will be taking the State Assessments according to the following schedule:

- Grade 6: May 17-20
- Grade 7: May 21-26
- Grade 8: May 27-June 2

I will send out more specific information about the schedule for these days as we get closer as the sequence of our periods may be modified. Also, a letter was sent to families of all remote learners in sixth or seventh grade with more specific information. If you received that letter from me via email, please be sure to respond to the identified school counselor by next Friday. A letter to all grade eight remote learners will be sent in the near future.

Tuesday:

Just a reminder that EVERY Tuesday is now an early release day for all students. **Tuesday, May 4 is an early release day.** Staff may be offering to assist students during this time.

Spring Pictures:

We are offering re-takes for our spring pictures on **Tuesday, May 4 from 12:15-1:30** for anyone interested.

PTO Fundraiser:

Our PTO has organized a fundraiser with HQ again this year. See attached. If interested, all you have to do is mention DePaolo when you call HQ for your order of mulch. Also attached is information about our Spiritwear fundraiser. Please use the link below if you are interested in ordering any DePaolo products.

<https://www.selectspiritwear.com/v5store/pc/viewCategories.asp?idCategory=1357>

Diversity Workshop:



Our third diversity workshop for all students will continue next week. Our presenters, Audley Donaldson and Paul Vivian have designed a Diversity Training Curriculum and have successfully delivered this training

to thousands of students. They are both certified diversity trainers in the state of Connecticut and will provide an opportunity to discuss diversity in a safe place where students can raise questions or concerns and reflect on how they incorporate diversity into their daily lives. Our school resource officer will also participate in these conversations.

Gold Team Shout Out:

Thank you to students on the Gold Team for drawing quotes related to diversity to spread a message of kindness and inclusion for our school community.



Water Bottles:



Especially now that the weather is getting warmer, please encourage your son or daughter to bring extra water bottles for them to drink throughout the day. Our water fountains are still not able to be used.

Canvas:

This link will bring families to valuable tutorials on how to use the district's adopted learning platform Canvas. [Introduction to Canvas](#)

Technical Assistance:

Any family experiencing difficulty with technology can use this link to contact the district tech help. [Middle School](#)

Thank you all again and enjoy your weekend!



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