



April 17, 2020

Dear Catholic Schools of Broome County Families & Staff:

I hope you are all keeping healthy and safe as we continue to navigate this uncertain time. The most recent executive order from Governor Cuomo indicates that the NY on Pause is through May 15, which means schools would not start back until May 18. We will continue to monitor information from the state and county for guidance on school openings and extended closures. Although physical distancing dictates school buildings are closed, the education of children is continuing.

4th Quarter Instruction

On behalf of the CSBC teachers and principals, I am providing updated plans and expectations for the 4th quarter. Over the past several weeks, we have been enhancing educational experiences in the best interest of all our students and families. During the 4th quarter, teachers will increase their direct instruction, interaction, and feedback on individual student progress. We are using a mode of distance learning that requires a partnership between teachers, parents and students. We greatly appreciate parents assistance in helping students access the materials, in setting work routines/structures that meet family needs, and informing teachers of any challenges their children may be facing.

Technology

Each week, elementary students will receive an overview plan indicating their required assignments for the week. Seton students have received an organized schedule of interactive meetings for their classes. CSBC teachers are using a variety of technology tools for instruction and communications to deliver online lessons, assignments, videos, videoconferencing, quizzes, exams, discussion posts and virtual office hours. If the student or you are having difficulty accessing materials or video conferencing, please contact your child's teacher.

Completion of Assignments

It is important that students attend any core instructional experiences that have been assigned as well as experiences from the Special Area teachers. Attendance at these sessions is expected. Teachers will be monitoring student participation.

Seton 4th Quarter Grading

Students will continue to be graded on assignments given in the Google Classroom. These assignments and assessments will be important in determining 4th quarter grades. We will continue to use numerical grades during distance learning. All grades 7-12 will be following similar grading protocols for the 4th marking period.

Elementary Schools K-6 4th Quarter Grading

Going forward, grading of assignments will be translated into a standards based score to accommodate various factors due to the current distance learning environment. Standards based grading measures students are used to assess proficiency on learning objectives.

The scores are as follow:

4= Exceeding grade level expectations consistently

3=Meeting grade level expectations

2=Progressing toward meeting grade level expectations

1=Not meeting grading level expectations at this time

NA=not assessed at this time

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Future CSBC Activities/Events

We are in the process of rescheduling some of the postponed events and will notify you once new dates have been set. Summer camps are being planned/scheduled as well as potential day trips by grade level. We are hoping that COVID-19 restrictions will be lifted in time for most of these activities and events.

If your child is struggling, please contact your child's teacher. We have resources available such as school counselors, community schools coordinator, special education teachers and resource teachers as well as student interns.

Please notify teachers or principals if you have any questions on this information. I know this time apart has not been easy and we greatly appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation with all the transitions. Looking forward to a time when we are all back together again!

May God bless you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Elizabeth Carter'.

Elizabeth Carter, PhD
President, Catholic Schools of Broome County

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