

Hello Middle School Families,

I hope that this week finds you and your family safe.

I wanted to take a moment to follow up on our initial email update with some new resources and information. If you did not receive the initial update from April 3, or you wanted to review the information, you can access that message [here](#). I have included a number of hyperlinks throughout the message that will take you directly to additional sources of support and information.

If you replied to the first email update to verify your email address, thank you for doing so, and you do not need to reply to this message unless you have a question or need more information.

If you have not yet responded to verify your email address, please reply with “got it” or “ok”. This will help us make sure we are reaching as many families as possible.

As you are probably aware, the biggest piece of new information is the announcement from Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf that all schools in the state will be [closed for the remainder of this school year](#). This includes the [cancellation of all spring sports](#).

While this news certainly changes the game for McGuffey and for other districts across the state, it does not keep us from connecting and engaging. With this in mind, we have continued to work on ways to meet the needs of our students and families as well as we possibly can.

Below is some of the latest information that we have to share.

Internet Connectivity and Chromebook Support

We realize that a number of our families have limited or no connectivity to the internet. We also realize that while students have been issued Chromebooks that there is a possibility that those Chromebooks will need service over the course of this remote learning period. As a result, the following services are available to all students:

- A [student help desk](#) that can be reached via email or phone
 - a. email: mcgstudenthelpdesk@mcguffey.k12.pa.us
 - b. phone: 724-948-3731 x 2320
- Wifi networks are available to all students in the High School Student parking lot. These networks will be available Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM and there will be no need to exit your vehicle to use these networks. McGuffey devices such as student Chromebooks will join the networks automatically. For students using their own devices, there is a Guest Network available. Please [email the student helpdesk](#) found on the [McGuffey School District Website](#) to obtain the password for access. Please be

diligent about maintaining social distancing and adhere to all McGuffey School District policies while on school property.

You can also check out the [Information Technology Page](#) on the district website for current news and information.

Guidance Counseling and Related Services

As always, Mrs. Lambie (Last Names L-Z) and Mrs. Hughes (Last Names A-F) are happy to help with any guidance counseling needs your child might have.

For general guidance information, they have set up a Guidance Google Classroom (Ask your child's guidance counselor for the code) that will be updated frequently with guidance materials and resources. They also would both like to encourage students to check in using this [guidance check in form](#).

If your child needs extra support, both our Student Assistance Program (SAP) and Tier 2 PBIS support teams, along with several other guidance support programs, will continue serving students during the school closure. Your child's guidance counselor can provide specific information about these programs and which one might be the best fit.

Both guidance counselors are available by email (lambiee@mcguffey.k12.pa.us and hughesj@mcguffey.k12.pa.us) to discuss any specific questions or concerns you might have.

In addition to our guidance counselors, our school psychologists Mrs. Fike and Mrs. Wise, our home and school visitor Mrs. Laffey, and our school social worker Ms. Campbell have been hard at work providing supports for students. If you have a need specific in these areas, you can access their Google Classroom. Please contact your child's counselor or principal for the classroom code.

Student Health Office

In a time such as this, our utmost concern is the safety and well being of our students and community members. Our school nurse, Mrs. Ealy has been very diligent in working to obtain the most current health and safety guidelines for our students. Please review this information on [How to Protect Yourself and Others](#). Mrs. Ealy is available via email (ealyk@mcguffey.k12.pa.us) if you have any specific questions or concerns related to student health and well being

Middle School PRIDE

As we work to keep connected, we want to make sure we are continuing to support our students in a positive way. As we move through the spring, you can keep up to date with the latest PRIDE

information in our [PRIDE Google Classroom](#) (Classroom code available by contacting an administrator or guidance counselor) or by following @McGPride on Twitter.

Right now, this is taking place in two very tangible ways. The first way is that we will be holding a [McGConnected Spirit Week from April 20-24](#). Each day will be a different theme focused on sharing and connecting with one another. We encourage you to share your photos so we can include them on our school websites and Twitter accounts. Please Tweet your pictures @McGPride and use the hashtag #McGConnected. You can also upload the photos to the PRIDE Google Classroom or email them to litmanc@mcguffey.k12.pa.us.

The themes are as follows:

- Mindful Monday - Stay mindful during tough times by striking a meditation pose and/or wearing your yoga gear
- Together Tuesday - Who are you staying in place with? Show us your family and connect with your McG family by wearing blue and gold.
- What are you doing Wednesday - Show us what you have been up to at home.
- Paw-sitively Pets Thursday - Pose with your pets for some picture perr-fect fun.
- Friendship Friday - How are you and your friends staying connected? Drop us a picture.

The second thing to “save the date” for will be our participation in [National Field Day](#). Since we cannot hold our annual Field Day at the school, we will be spending the next few weeks planning a special Digital Field Day. More details will be released in the weeks ahead, but for now, mark your calendars for May 8, 2020.

Hopefully this information proves helpful in our aim to provide every student and family with the best possible experience during this remote learning period. Remember to visit the [District Website](#) and our [Online Learning Hub](#) for the latest information and updates, as well as to follow the middle school (@McGuffey_MS) and school district (@McGuffey_SD).

Thank you for your continued partnership and support during this unique learning opportunity.

