

Dear Good Shepherd Families,

Yesterday, April 23, we heard from Governor Walz some heartbreaking news: no more school on campus, distance learning for the remainder of the school year. Although this is not a total surprise, it was disheartening to hear. With this news, there is more to work through, more decisions to make, and more logistics to communicate, which we will be sharing with you in the coming days/weeks as we pull it together.

We are grateful for all the positive and encouraging feedback we have been receiving from our amazing families since the very beginning of our transition into distance learning. Thank you to everyone who responded to the distance learning survey we sent out after the first two weeks. We received over 200 responses and I am very pleased with the results. I think this speaks volumes to the professionalism and excellence of the Good Shepherd teachers. I am so appreciative of the work they do. Below are the survey results:

- 97% have rated their families experience with distance learning as extremely satisfied/satisfied.
- Over 98% rate school and teacher communication during this time as superior/adequate.
- 95% of parents reported that assisting their child with distance learning is manageable or it is hard but they are getting through it.
- During this distance learning period an appropriate amount of time for K-6th students to be spending on school work daily is somewhere between two to four hours depending on the grade. Families reported the following: 8% more than 4 hours, 77% 2-4 hours, 14% 1-2 hours, and 1% less than 1 hour.
- Families reported that parent assistance is needed with K-6th daily work as follows: 71% minimal to some, 22% almost all, 7% no parent assistance required. These responses varied amongst the grade levels with the lower grades requiring more assistance than the upper.

All the survey information has been shared with the teachers. We will do our very best with the information provided to adjust where necessary and provide families with the best distance learning experience possible. We will get through this together. Please don't hesitate to reach out to any teacher/staff with any questions or concerns. We are here to help.

With gratitude,
Mr. Mike McGinty