

STEVENSON

March 19, 2020

Dear Stevenson Community:

As we continue our transition to an indefinite period of remote learning and all that it entails, we write to direct your attention to the likelihood of supplementary 1:1 on-line video conferencing between your child and their teachers. While 1:1 video conferencing has already begun between our lower division families and the faculty, 1:1 video conferencing will also commence for the middle and upper divisions between students and faculty.

These meetings may occur in providing individualized academic help, or as part of our advising program for the middle and upper divisions. On a typical school day, of course, your child regularly engages in one-to-one conversations with many adults. Such exchanges are critical to their emotional health and well being. It is through these conversations that they remain connected, feel supported, valued, and seen. Now that we are fully engaged with remote learning, these crucial exchanges will still occur, just online. With that reality, it is important to state that we hold the same expectations for interactions between teacher and student regardless of the means of communication.

We recognize that students are used to greater informality in communication online, given that it is primarily used to connect with their peers. While our older students use email and, occasionally, text messages to communicate about School matters with their teachers and coaches, they are not accustomed to interacting with their teachers online in an academic context to this extent. Our teachers are already extensively trained on establishing appropriate boundaries with students, and we have overtly addressed with the faculty in recent days the importance of this training as we make this transition to online learning. We believe that it is important to continue to offer individualized support to our students, and hope that you too see the value in this connection.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to either of us. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Molly K. Bozzo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Molly K. Bozzo
Head of the Lower and Middle Divisions

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'D' followed by 'an' and 'Griffiths'.

Dr. Dan Griffiths
Head of the Upper Division