Dear Cottage Lake Families,

Thank you for all your continued support of learning this week! Teachers continue to work hard to develop and deliver opportunities to engage students in learning. This has been a huge shift for us all and I am thankful for your partnership!

I want to share a special THANK YOU to Tiana Shuford! Over the past month, Ms. Shuford joined Cottage Lake to fill in while Mrs. Hanning was on maternity leave. Mrs. Hanning is planning to return to school and teaching next week. Ms. Shuford stepped in with passion and drive and connected immediately with Ms. Lynn. I am so thankful for both these ladies continuing to support all our students with music education during the distance learning. We will miss you, Ms. Shuford!

I have added several sections of new information below. Please take a look below and reach out if you have questions. I also want to share a special note regarding two days at the end of the month. There will be school on Friday, May 22. This is one of our snow make-up days. There will be NO SCHOOL on Monday, May 25 for the observance of Memorial Day. Distance learning will resume on Tuesday, May 26, with a typical Tuesday schedule. We have decided as a staff at Cottage Lake that we do not want our students to choose between classroom content and supports received through EL, LAP, or services within Special Education. For this reason, we will embed reading work that would have been delivered on Monday into our Math lessons on Wednesday, May 27, and Writing lessons on Friday, May 29. Thank you for your support of each student and ensuring all students have the opportunity to access the support and services they need to be successful.

**ZOOM AND CHROMEBOOK UPDATES:**
If you or your student(s) is/are using a Chromebook from Cottage Lake or from Northshore, this message below is for you. If you are using your own device, please disregard.

“**Chrome and Zoom both have updates for Chromebook devices available this morning [Tuesday, May 12]. Staff and students using district Chromebooks should restart their devices to receive these updates automatically. These are Zoom specific updates that may help alleviate some video and audio issues.**
To restart a Chromebook click the notification area (the section with the WiFi, power, and time in the lower right corner) and click or tap the 'Shut down' icon. Then, manually power On the device using the power button on the right side edge of the device.

Secondly, to improve performance when using Zoom, try using Speaker View instead of Gallery View. The fewer the video streams being used the better.”

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHARLOTTE AND NOOR!
This year, our school staff was asked to nominate to students who exhibited Acceptance, Community, and Advocacy. After the nominations, staff voted on two students who would be our recipients of our award. After our voting, I am pleased to share that Noor Hamad and Charlotte Lickenbrock were our recipients of the C.P & Dorothy Johnson Award for the 2019-2020 school year. You can see the video of their presentation here: https://www.nsd.org/get-involved/honoring-our-community/cp-dorothy-johnson-humanitarian-award.

END OF YEAR GRADING:
The district has been working hard to determine what our end of year report card will look like, given our pandemic and distance learning. While some components are still under development, I am happy to share a few details with you.

For the end of the year, the Northshore School District has adopted a ‘Prepared’ and ‘Prepared with Support’ approach to the final Elementary Report Card. Students will receive their end-of-year designation based on their engagement during distance learning. Students have the ability to engage in a variety of ways. A few ideas of engagement are: students can be in direct contact with their teacher(s), viewing live or recorded lessons, work completion and submissions of their work, and participating in live conversations and chats related to learning.

The typical Elementary Report Card will not be utilized. Rather, an abbreviated 2019-20 report, similar to the quarter progress reports, will be developed. A note accompanying this report will designate that the end of the 2019-20 school year was unique, that grading practices were adopted to account for the circumstances influencing this year’s final semester, and provide an explanation of the notations used for grades.
I would like to continue to encourage your student’s participation in distance learning. If I can be of support to you or your student, please reach out and we can work collaboratively together. I’m here to assist.

**PARENT/GUARDIAN ZOOM MEETINGS WITH MS. WELCH:**
I am committed to partnering with each of you for the success of your children. I also want to check-in with you to see how you all are doing. For this reason, I’ve set up grade level specific “Principal Office Hours” Zoom meetings. These are meant for you, the adults, in our children’s lives. I don’t have a set agenda planned, but I will work to answer your questions and/or listen to what you want to share. I’d love to hear what is going well, but also, what challenges you are encountering. We are here to problem solve with you and be a support, as well. Below you will find the meeting information for each grade level:

- **Kindergarten:** Monday, May 18 @ 4:30 PM
  - Zoom link: [https://nsd.zoom.us/j/91049463102?pwd=VFhtcDVFSdVwc0tDenIsWTcwZkVudz09](https://nsd.zoom.us/j/91049463102?pwd=VFhtcDVFSdVwc0tDenIsWTcwZkVudz09)

- **1st Grade:** Monday, May 18 @ 6:00 PM
  - Zoom link: [https://nsd.zoom.us/j/99962010925?pwd=cENuSE1zbW1wMUtkQnZsT1Q1QUpCQT09](https://nsd.zoom.us/j/99962010925?pwd=cENuSE1zbW1wMUtkQnZsT1Q1QUpCQT09)

- **2nd Grade:** Tuesday, May 19 @ 4:30 PM
  - Zoom link: [https://nsd.zoom.us/j/97276343558?pwd=djZyZ1hoYU5HWWt6Q21rV3F1U2M2UT09](https://nsd.zoom.us/j/97276343558?pwd=djZyZ1hoYU5HWWt6Q21rV3F1U2M2UT09)

- **3rd Grade:** Wednesday, May 20 @ 4:30 PM
  - Zoom link: [https://nsd.zoom.us/j/94369211578?pwd=RGF0QmliSZ3VqZlJEa01YYzcTUx5dz09](https://nsd.zoom.us/j/94369211578?pwd=RGF0QmliSZ3VqZlJEa01YYzcTUx5dz09)

- **4th Grade:** Wednesday, May 20 @ 6:00 PM
  - Zoom link: [https://nsd.zoom.us/j/92460724490?pwd=ckNXZEiGUmNLdXRkdUE4M2NWbHVZUT09](https://nsd.zoom.us/j/92460724490?pwd=ckNXZEiGUmNLdXRkdUE4M2NWbHVZUT09)

- **5th Grade:** Thursday, May 21 @ 6:00 PM
  - Zoom link: [https://nsd.zoom.us/j/97044320688?pwd=Z0d5ZGs4OXJxY0J4d1ZsS0FJaVhIdz09](https://nsd.zoom.us/j/97044320688?pwd=Z0d5ZGs4OXJxY0J4d1ZsS0FJaVhIdz09)
REPEAT...PARENT INPUT FORM FOR CLASS PLACEMENT CONSIDERATION:
Each year, we create a class input form, but this year it is digital, like the rest of our world. This form is similar for students at Bear Creek, Cottage Lake, East Ridge, and Sunrise. We met earlier this year and aligned the form and decided to create one that we could all use for our families.

Please visit this embedded Google form link to complete the 2020-2021 OPTIONAL Parent Input form. Please know this form is NOT kept confidential and WILL be shared with classroom teachers as they work on placement for next year in the following grade. We do NOT take into consideration specific teacher requests. Specific teacher requests will be discarded. Lastly, there is always a possibility we might have a split/multi age class. This is especially due to being a small school. Grade levels parents will not be contacted directly if we need to create a split/multi-age classroom. Please add your comments for your student within the link above.

For families joining us from Bear Creek, teachers from Bear Creek will be assisting in class placements for next year, as well. Whenever possible, I will try to pair students with other good student connections also joining us from Bear Creek. Please contact Jen Welch, Principal (jwelch@nsd.org) with specific questions.

REPEAT...KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR:
I want to remind everyone we are still accepting Kindergarten registrations for this upcoming 2020-2021 school year. All registrations are online and can be accessed at www.nsd.org/enroll. If you know of anyone who will be five years old by August 31, please have them register soon for Kindergarten. Our Cottage Lake’s Kindergarten numbers are fairly low at this time and I am beginning to work on staffing our school with remarkable teachers for next year. Registrations matter. :) 

REPEAT...NORTHSHELSE LEARNS 2.0:
This link will take you to the official Northshore Learns 2.0 website. [https://www.nsd.org/covid19/northshore-learns] We continue to have 5 weeks of learning ahead of us. To maximize this learning, it is important to establish expectations for all students during this distance learning. A few expectations could be reinforced with a schedule that helps students see how their day will be divided. If I could be of assistance creating or brainstorming with you about a schedule, please let me know.
To assist in providing a few quick links, here are links to the PE and Music Google Sites for you. Mrs. Sterling, our Librarian, will post links to her assignments to your student’s specific online platform (Google Classroom, Microsoft Teams, or SeeSaw).

Music:  https://sites.google.com/apps.nsd.org/cottage-lake-music/home
PE:  https://sites.google.com/apps.nsd.org/cottage-lake-elementary/home

PTA NOTES:
Our PTA is a critical partner to our work to support students and teachers. After our PTA meeting last week, here are some updates for you.

- Rock the Night Away... or Rock the “week” Away…. with the Cottage Lake PTA Online Auction from May 9th to May 16th! Please visit this link: cleauction2020.givesmart.com to register and view the items for sale. If you bid on a quick sale item, that is one you can buy on the spot. Anything you bid on is open for the entire week. Please pass along the website above to any friends and families who would be interested in supporting our amazing school. Thank You so much for your generosity and support!

Take Care,
Jennifer Welch, Principal