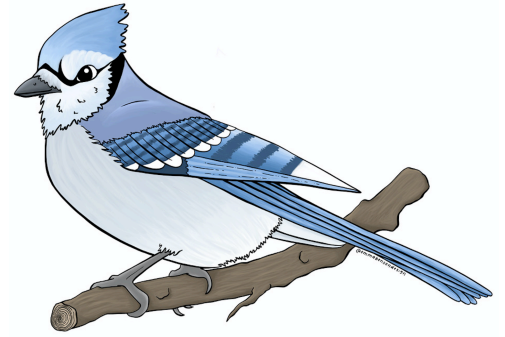


Brookside Elementary

Principal's Message

(School Closure Edition)

3/31/20



Greetings Brookside Families,

I hope that you and your loved ones are safe and doing well. As you've seen in the messages coming from our district office, there are many things happening! I have several updates for you.

Welcome Message!

Elementary deans in Shoreline are recording video greeting messages for our school communities. Mr. Mayer recorded this message for all of you. Expect more video messages to come from our support staff as the closure continues: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dI9b0Ch8gh8t7kf7OtjJOdR1kigKETTj/view>

Home Learning Resources

Last week, we had a large amount of information come to you at once. I teased out some of the information I thought you might be seeking and sent this page of links to you on 3/25. For your convenience, here it is again: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1vatup6-U3iT-ybTzurlUgxnFGeBrNsFP>.

This week, some new items were loaded into the **Online Lesson Videos** portion of the resources page: <https://shorelineschools.instructure.com/courses/16405/pages/elementary-resources>. These video lessons were developed by instructional coaches and teachers on special assignment and represent our districts first foray into video lessons. Over the coming weeks, more will be produced and uploaded for your use.

Mary Telstad

In October, one of our beloved teachers, Mary Telstad, fell seriously ill. I've had some inquiries about how things are going for her during this period, so I am re-sharing this link to the Caring Bridge page updated by Mrs. Gallotte: <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/marytelstad>

Imagine Learning Resource for our Students Learning English

Imagine Learning is an application that our students learning English use at school to support their rapid growth acquiring the language. For the first time, it will be available to our students online. I am having Sally Thomas, our English Language Learning teacher, reach out directly to the homes of our students who will benefit from this great resource.

Home Learning Adjustment

As our teachers have been connecting with families, I've heard more and more about the stress our current situation is putting on all of you. Many of our staff have school-aged children too and are experiencing this crisis as educators and parents at the same time. I have two sons, Alexander (4th grade) and Lucien (Kindergarten). The changes and uncertainty we all experience have been very hard on everyone – kids and grown-ups alike. As Shoreline & Brookside continue to develop and share resources with you, don't feel that everything must be done all at once. During this period, try different schedules with your children regarding when they will do home learning work and when they will take breaks or be done for the day. The hard part is finding a rhythm that works for everyone in the home (or finding a new rhythm when something changes).

Staff Technology Trainings

Shoreline schools have been moving forward in training our staff with different remote learning and collaboration tools. This includes Zoom for video chat. As with any new tool, it will take some time to get staff

trained and practiced so they can use it effectively with our students. I do not have a timeline right now on when our staff will be hosting groups of students using this tool. However, I wanted to assure you that this is in the works. Just like any tool, we want to be able to guide our staff members (and then students) with norms & structures conducive to a productive and safe learning environment.

Shoreline's Ongoing Community Support

Staff members across Shoreline Public Schools are supporting our community in many ways. Shoreline distributed 10,000 sack lunches at our food distribution sites last week (yes, "ten thousand" is the correct number). These were prepared by Shoreline Food Services employees and transported by our wonderful bus drivers. Each distribution site and the kitchens that supplied them get full cleanings ongoing from our hard-working district custodians to maintain the safety of our staff and the public. Our Equity & Family Engagement Dept. has been working closely with the Shoreline PTA Council, community groups, and our school family advocates providing direct support to families in need. Along with building the Home Learning Resources site, the Teaching & Learning Dept. coordinated work packet distribution including 900 requests to have the packets mailed to homes. Our IT Dept. distributed 200 laptops or other devices to students and provided Internet hotspots for those without web access. Our facilities have also been enlisted to support our community with Dale Turner YMCA staff providing childcare for healthcare and other essential workers at Shoreline sites, and the Shoreline Center campus hosting a large mobile hospital in the soccer fields.

The Blue Jay Challenge

Our Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) team has been in place the past few years supporting a positive social-emotional climate at our school. Even though school is empty, the PBIS team has been devising ways to continue this work with our kids in fun ways from afar. Keep an eye out for The Blue Jay Challenge...more information will be coming soon.

Lake Forest Park Police Miss Your Kids

Our local police department does a great job with essential law enforcement duties, but they also want to provide more services to our community! Officers frequently visit our campus during the school year and they are really missing our students, so they've read stories to share with you all. Find them on their YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwS_0FxuLNN-9W7IBNxWi7w. Also, maybe you have a question for our officers...If so, you are in luck! Submit your questions to police@cityofflp.com, and they will have an officer answer them on YouTube! Please send your first name, school, and teacher's name with your question.

PTA Council & Family Supports

The Shoreline PTA Council is grateful to community and for the partnership with Director of Equity & Family Engagement, Dr. Brandon-Felder, and our Lead Family Advocate, Susie Moore. Together, they ensured an effective system for distributing grocery/gas cards and Friday Food Packs to families most in need. Over the last couple of weeks, Shoreline PTA Council served over 250 families with food and grocery/gas cards. Council has shifted the role of distributing gift cards to the family advocates. If you are in need of support, please contact our family advocate directly at susie.moore@shorelineschools.org. If you are interested in lending support to the gift card program, donations can be made through Embrace Shoreline Schools: <https://embraceshorelineschools.org/>

For more information on other available food supports and other organizations that would appreciate financial support, please visit <https://www.shorelineschools.org/Page/7133>

Camp Orkila Raffle Tickets

The school closure interrupted our schedule for raffle ticket sales. Fourth grade students may continue selling raffle tickets in what ever method their parents/guardians deem safe. Please keep all raffle ticket information and don't throw anything away. We will process these when school reopens.

Thank you for your ongoing support to our school & community,
Principal John Simard