



March 20, 2020

Dear Franklin Families,

All of us are living through unprecedented times as we work to keep our communities safe in the face of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Of course, health is of paramount importance, so first and foremost we hope that everyone is well and doing their best to stay healthy. Like many of you, we are closely monitoring the spread and impact of COVID-19 (coronavirus). This is first and foremost a health crisis, and our thoughts go out to those who have been directly affected by the virus in their communities and to the health care workers who are on the frontlines in managing it.

At Franklin Academy, our goal is to support our students through these challenging times and provide continuity of instruction. To that end, we met with our teachers and support staff remotely through video conferencing to solidify our Virtual Instruction Continuity Plan so that teachers are ready to begin quality instruction by March 30th. I am so incredibly proud of our teachers' and staff's willingness to rise to this challenge and their capacity to learn new instructional delivery platforms and methods at such an accelerated rate.

Attached to this email, you will find a Frequently Asked Questions guide that will assist you as a parent in understanding what is to come for your student's learning in the coming weeks. We know that these are uncertain times and that circumstances are rapidly evolving. This FAQ will get you started on this new journey, but please continue to be flexible should changes to our initial plan need to be made.

The main school phone number will be answered from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday, by an administrative assistant. Please keep in mind that they will be working remotely and will likely need to manually take a message for a return phone call if you are trying to reach any other staff members via phone. Email will continue to be the best method of communication during this extended school closure. All students will need to have consistent access to an iPad/tablet, laptop, desktop, or smartphone to access the Google Classroom platforms, i-Ready (smartphones are not compatible with i-Ready), and other digital learning platforms.

This new endeavor will be one where we practice being risk takers and, inevitably, errors will be made by all stakeholders. I ask that we extend to each other an increased measure of grace and remember that our shared goal is student success. I am confident that working together in this way, we will not only survive this current challenge, but we will thrive and come out on the other side of this as *better people*.

We wish you and your families the best of health. I look forward to working with all of you in this next chapter of the year and, as always, I am here for you in whatever way I can help.

Stay well,  
Elena Diaz, *Principal*