



**West Valley School**  
Above and Beyond  
The West Valley Way

**5/8/2020**

**Dear West Valley Families,**

I hope you are all doing well. As the state begins to partially open up, I hope you can ease back into a little bit of normalcy. We at West Valley School know what a tough time this has been for families to adjust to doing school and life in such a drastic manner. We again want to thank all of you for your tremendous support and the great work you've done to help your kids continue with their learning during the Covid-19 shutdown. This past week was teacher's appreciation week and we want to thank all of our WV teachers, as well as, moms, dads, brothers, sisters, grandparents and others who continue to do a great job teaching at home!

- **Online Schooling Remainder of the Year-** As all of you know, the West Valley School Board voted unanimously to stay with online learning the remainder of the school year. This was a difficult decision, but centered on what was safest and best for everyone. The schooling will continue through May 29. June will be the time for students to catch up on work and pick up their personal belongings, as well as, bring back Chromebooks and other school materials. The official last of school is still June 10.
- **Picking up Personal Belongings and Returning School Materials -** Mrs. Blair, Mr. Gross and Mr. Wilson will be setting up schedules for families to pick up students' personal items at school. During that same time, Mr. Wilson will be making arrangements for the return of any Chromebooks that were borrowed from the school. They will be sending out schedules for this closer to the end of May. We will need to follow the CDC guidelines for social distancing, so please be aware of the directions from the principals.
- **8th Grade Completion Ceremony-** We all agree the 8th grade completion ceremony is one of the highlights of the year for 8th grade students. It's a special time in their lives, as they leave something familiar behind and head into a brand new adventure. This year, due to restrictions and uncertainty around Covid-19, we will not have an event on campus. The class will share in the creation of a video which will be released on the planned ceremony date of June 9. Promotion certificates will be printed and given to

students via a special staff delivery. We hope that you carry on the tradition of celebrating this milestone by doing something special with your 8th grader.

- **Summer School Planning-** As of right now we do not have any concrete plans for holding a summer school. We are looking at specific summer school classes, such as a math class for middle school and some type of summer school for identified kids. If we do have a summer school, it will most likely be held in August, before school starts. We will continue to keep you updated on this and let you know before the school year ends if and, when we will hold summer school.
- **Donations-** Thanks to all who have donated so generously to help families in West Valley who have been affected financially by the shutdown. We have a very caring and generous community and please feel free to donate, as all of the donations go to help families in need. Please contact Laura Cox at [lcx@westvalleyschool.com](mailto:lcx@westvalleyschool.com), or call 755-7239. The donations are greatly appreciated and go to help families through this tough time.
- **Thank You PTO!**- We want to thank the PTO for all they have done this year for the students, staff and families of West Valley! A special thank you for the nice gift bag handed out during our school parade. The WV students and staff appreciate all you do to make WV a great school!
- **Start of Next School Year-** I really wish I could predict the future and tell you exactly what the start of school will look like in the fall of 2020, but I can't at this time. I can tell you that we have already started planning and will be forming a committee/task force to look at a variety of scenarios and potential plans for next school year. There are many variables to consider in this situation and we want to be as prepared as possible for whatever the future holds. We have started discussions with administration and will continue on with leadership teams next, followed by the entire staff. We will look for advice from county health officials, as well as, other schools in the area. We hope to have several potential plans in place before the end of this school year, keeping in mind these will be very fluid plans, at best. We certainly don't want to alarm anyone, but do want to make sure we are as prepared as possible for any scenario. We will continue to keep parents updated on the latest information regarding next school year. Best case scenario, we are back to normal next year!

Lastly, we want to wish all of the mothers, grandmothers and mothers to be, a very happy and healthy Mother's day! Thanks for all you do for your families!

All the best!

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