



SUNSET RIDGE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

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Todd Graves, Principal Stephanie Goad, Assistant Principal Kim Babien, Secretary

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Dear Sunset Parents and Students,

I believe we have finally settled into our routine for Ridgefield Remote. I have seen amazing interaction between students and teachers in the last couple of weeks which tell me that we have found our groove. Our teachers are working really hard and producing some positive results. This is not to say we aren't working to continuously improve the quality of what we are doing, but I feel that we are on the right path.

This week the Sunset staff discussed Teacher clarity and how important it is to be very clear on what we expect students to learn. We have had great conversation around laser-focused lessons to support concepts with specific skills. This all leads up to conferences next week. If you have not heard from your child's teacher, you can expect to hear from them soon. Next Thursday and Friday we have half days dedicated to parent/student/teacher conferences. If you have not heard anything by the end of the day on Monday, please reach out to your child's teacher.

I have said before that Sunset is committed to taking your feedback and improving what we do. Last month we sent out a family survey about the learning behaviors of your child. We received 55 responses. Our building leadership team then met to discuss your responses and we shared this with the entire staff. We learned that from your perspective Sunset students put in quite a bit of effort when it comes to school-related tasks. We also learned that an area we want to focus on is student learning through the feedback we provide. Hence the clarity of our instruction. One question we asked was, If another parent asked your advice for getting their child to be a more motivated learner outside of school, what suggestions would you give? Here are some of your suggestions:

To frequently check in with their child and for the parent to show interest. Give your child positive feedback and let them know we are all in this together and most all students are facing some challenges with the new learning system that is currently in place.

Goals for the day. Rewards (when your assignments are done you can do a fun cooking project, play with a friend, call Grandma, etc...)

Have a schedule and plan in breaks. Try a reward system for positive behavior

Have a dedicated workspace free from distractions, try to keep on top of their assignments daily but let them do their own work

This month our survey will focus on grit. I ask that you spend time with your student(s) and take these surveys together. They should not take more than 10 min. [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Russian](#).

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Go Coyotes!

Todd Graves - Principal

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