

April 21, 2020

Dear First Grade Families,

The news we received last week regarding the school closure extension through the remainder of this school year was difficult for us to process. We know the importance of keeping everyone safe and healthy, but we sure miss being in the classroom with your children. We know this also places a greater burden on families, and we want you to know we are here for you and will continue to provide you with resources and materials for At Home Learning through the end of the school year.

This week we've moved from supplemental activities to essential learning targets in [The Manz 1st Grade At-Home Learning Checklist for the Week of April 20](#). The checklist will also be posted on the [Manz At-Home Learning 1st Grade Activities](#) page. The activities in the **Reading, Writing, Math, and MAPE (Music, Art, and PE)** sections are **essential learning targets** determined by teams of teachers over the past couple of weeks. The **Bonus** activities are **supplemental**. We are providing the bonus activities for families who want to do more and different activities than the expected essential tasks.

We know not having district-supplied devices has been challenging for many families in first grade. If you prefer paper copies mailed to your home, please reach out to your child's classroom teacher and let her know. Many departments have come together with some creative ways to allow us to get resources out to you.

Several families have reached out to ask about supplies or other things that were left at school. We haven't had time to plan that yet because we don't know when we'll be allowed back in the building, but we will be sure those things are returned to your child.

We love the communication from home. The notes, pictures, and videos you send are the most enjoyable parts of our days. Each of us is working on a digital memory book we hope to share with students when we can see them again. Many of the things you're sending will be included, and we want every student to be a part of this, so please keep the notes, pictures, and videos coming!

Remember, even though we're limiting our whole class contact with families to twice a week, we encourage you to reach out to us with questions and to share positive things that are happening at home with first graders.

Take good care,

Mrs. Bauer, Mrs. Brandt, and Mrs. Decker