

Dear Parents,

I was wondering...do you know your child's Native American name? We are having a lot of fun with that. I'm surprised we are actually memorizing them so well. Next week it will all seem normal, right? Ha ha!

I was cogitating this week on how unusual and unexpected this year has been. And I am actually in awe of how well all the Ellerbees are handling this. I've talked about this before, but it just struck me that really, they are living through something that no kids in the history of the world have ever had to do! We certainly did not have to do this when we were growing up! I mean, doing school at home on a device? Missing out on so much of the normal classroom interactions? Doing PE online? Doing work every day without a teacher in the same room to offer help? But, not only are they doing it, they are doing it with a smile on their faces! As far as I'm concerned, that puts them in **Superhero status**! I think this is a moment in history that not only will they remember, they will tell this story to their own kids one day. Doesn't it boggle the mind?

On to stuff to know...

#### **END OF THE TRIMESTER**

We have made it to the end of the second trimester! Is that unbelievable? This Friday marks the close of the trimester. Then I will be working on report cards. These will be posted and available to parents on March 26.

#### **TITLING EMAILS CORRECTLY**

Just following up on a request I made last week. In specific, I requested that when a student wants to ask me a question, or request help, or ask to use a coupon, they should put an indicator in the subject line of their emails. And I do think it was a little better last week. Like I said earlier, I absolutely want to get back to them quickly if it is something time sensitive. Labeling an email to indicate this helps me so much! We still had a few emails that didn't specify the request, but it was way better!

#### **HYBRID SCHOOL STARTING**

As you know, CUSD is starting the hybrid model on April 5. I believe that there will be an opportunity for all families to rethink whether they want their kids to participate at school in a cohort or remain 100% long distance. If you don't receive a survey, you can email the Lincoln office to ask your status and/or ask to change your status. There is no need to make a change, of course, but the district wants all parents to be able to make changes based on how the hybrid model will work etc.

FYI, things are still in flux as to exactly how this will work. In addition, each school does get to have some flexibility as to how it will work on their campus. Currently, at Lincoln we are planning the first 2 weeks to be a "get adjusted" time. We will need to work on ideas of how to stagger student arrivals, where kids can play etc. So, currently the idea is for hybrid kids to

come to school from 8:30 to 10:30. After the first 2 weeks, the time will increase substantially. But it will still be 2 days at school for each cohort.

In addition, keep in mind that Cohort A students will be at Lincoln on Mondays and Tuesdays. Cohort B students will be at Lincoln on Thursdays and Fridays. Teachers are working on making Cohort groups. It is important for us to coordinate with other teachers due to siblings so that siblings would be in the same cohort. Any information you can send about that is appreciated. Finally, we are still working out details, but mostly likely I will be able to teach the students in class and the students at home simultaneously in a livestream type of format. As far as I can tell that means whether kids are at home or at Lincoln, we will still be able to keep our class community intact. And I will still be the teacher for all the Ellerbees. I can't tell you how relieved I am about that as earlier other models were being considered. Whew!

### **FAMILY WORKSHOP**

Just a reminder that there is a family workshop scheduled for this week. Refer to blurb below.

#### **Regulation for Our Kids and Ourselves**

Wednesday, March 10th 6:30-8pm

-Join us as we discuss practical, hands-on strategies we can incorporate into our daily routines and relationships to increase emotional regulation in our kids and in ourselves. We will discuss the mechanisms behind why different strategies promote regulation and resilience, and offer tips for experimenting with adding these tools to your family routines.

If you are interested, please use this link to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/regulation-for-our-kids-and-ourselves-tickets-141390220957>

### **GRADING AND SUBMITTING MATH**

We are getting better at this! Hooray! In order to make it clear when we are grading math assignments, I am having kids write it on their agendas on Mondays. That should be a quick way to check. It is also written on the Assignment Checklist page on the website. Please work out a way to help your child remember to have it ready to go. It is easy to forget to get it, or even forget where they put it! This is especially true when we grade Friday's work on Monday morning. Getting a routine established for this will help a lot. Thank you so much!

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions. Especially concerning the hybrid reopening. We will get through this together.

Stay safe,

Ruth