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Greetings, Roosevelt Families!

With a month to go before students return to school via Comprehensive Distance Learning (CDL), we know many questions remain about the school year ahead. As promised, here is the second August update... and we will continue to send out information weekly as we receive it. You can access all our communications via the school website:

[RMS website](#) → Comprehensive Distance Learning → [Parent and Family Communications](#).

Below you'll find information about iPad distribution, additional updates about CDL, and a staffing update. As always, we welcome your questions and ideas and will be scheduling our first family meeting by early September.

Fall Planning and iPad Distribution

As you know by now, our school year has a delayed start. The first day for students will be **Monday, September 14**. Most students and most classes will **not** be on-site and instead, students will be engaged in CDL. In some cases, the 4j school district has the authority to grant limited access to the building for small group instruction. Students and families who meet the criteria for this support will be contacted individually by a case manager or counselor in September.

As we mentioned last week, teachers will deliver CDL in a learning management system: [Canvas](#). Canvas replaces Google Classroom, is used locally at the University of Oregon, and is much better suited to on-line learning. To fully access CDL, all class content and synchronous meetings, every student will use a **school-issued iPad**. Unlike last spring when picking up an iPad was optional, this year, every student will need a school device in order to achieve the same consistent, predictable platform. We also are ready with either **internet hotspots** or support for **broadband internet** to ensure all students can access Canvas from their iPad.

We will be **handing out iPads** two days next week: **Monday, August 24** and **Tuesday, August 25**.

We know this is short notice... and given all the moving pieces at the start of the year, it's important we begin soon. If you are unable to get your iPad next week, we will have additional pick-up times prior to school starting. We have no grade or last name restrictions for pick-up-- please come grab your iPad when it is convenient for you and your family:

- *Monday, August 24 from 8:30 am - 5:30 pm*
- *Tuesday, August 25 from 8:30 am - 5:30 pm*

Right now, we will only be handing out iPads and not other belongings or Lost and Found items. Please remember to wear a mask and practice social distancing... pick-up will be in front of the school at the main entrance and **not** the gym like it was last spring. Hope to see you next week!

Staffing updates

We have additional news to our staffing update from last week. After years of service to our Roosevelt community, Chava Beinin is retiring. In our current context, making a decision like this is incredibly difficult and we fondly wish Chava all the best. Her legacy will not be soon forgotten and we will miss her! We will be interviewing this week and next for our open positions in both Social Studies and Language Arts.

Another opening we have available that might be of interest to our parents is a **two-hour volunteer-coordinator** position. We've had Roosevelt parents serve in this role in the past and it is a perfect position for someone looking for very part-time and very engaged work. The position this year will most likely look different than it has in the past; we envision hiring someone who is connected in the community, understands the dynamic nature of a school, and who can **thoughtfully and strategically bridge between school and home**. If this sounds interesting to you, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or Mikel

CDL

As I reflect on the fall and how our work will look and feel differently, even from the spring, I'm compelled to consider our vision statement: "As a community of learners, RMS strives to create an innovative, rigorous, culturally relevant learning environment that emphasizes collaboration and a culture of respect."

In CDL, we continue to aspire to these ideals. We are inspired to innovate and capitalize on our unique circumstances: a global pandemic, an election year, and the centering of racial and social justice issues in our schools, community, state and nation. The first few weeks online this fall will be solely focused on creating human connections, re-establishing relationships and academic expectations within classroom communities, and learning a limited number of tech tools we can all use intelligently together. Students will be connecting daily with teachers and other staff and completing assignments and projects that are focused, draw upon student experiences of the last few months, and connect students with their peers. Our goal is to make instruction meaningful, relevant and accessible to all students and to support them in continuing to achieve in an online setting.

We expect to have a finalized middle school schedule by the beginning of next week. Unlike emergency remote learning last spring, fall will include more scaffolded, structured learning opportunities and instruction delivered in real time. We look forward to sharing that information with you as soon as we can!

In closing

The heart of our school begins and ends with you, the families we strive to serve. As we move ever closer to September, I'm keeping this idea close: We're going to do our very best for our students and our staff by extending grace and patience and finding ways to increase a sense of belonging. Right now, for all of us, there is only so much we can control... and we will continue to learn and grow together in the process of CDL and ultimately, create an even more connected and united school community.

We look forward to seeing your students online again very soon!

All our best,
Courtney and Mike