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New Distance Learning Plan 2.0 to Begin Monday, April 13 Sue Park • 2 months ago • Friday, Apr 10 at 6:33 PM • Yu Ming Charter School

Dear Yu Ming families,

We hope that this message finds you healthy and well. I write to share our updated Distance Learning 2.0 program which will begin Monday, April 13 at 8:30am.

Our faculty, administrators, and staff have been hard at work to integrate learnings from our first two weeks of distance learning along with your feedback in order to strengthen the first iteration of our program. We want to thank and acknowledge our Yu Ming team for their dedication to students, our families, and one another so that student learning and well-being continue to be supported even as our lives and school as we knew it have been so profoundly altered. You have been extraordinary!

And to our students and families, as we look to a near future of ongoing distance learning we plan to continue to integrate the feedback you shared through the Distance Learning survey, advisories, zoom conversations, and emails. Here are some highlights of the changes you will see in our updated **Distance Learning Guide**:

- **Reorganized Class Learning Pages** with contact information for all teachers and links to Weekly Learning Plans that include clear guidance for accessing and turning in assignments, and schedules that include all necessary links and materials in one visual grid organized by day and hour, including zoom classroom passwords for added security.
- Clear Organization of Academic Work during the virtual school day as "class time" (for live sessions) and "independent work" time (for non-live sessions), and eliminating "homework" so students can be free to rest and play. Please be mindful of limiting your child's screen time outside the virtual school day. Live "class time" sessions are the only part of the day that is scheduled and students can complete non-live "independent work" flexibly during any other part of the day that fits your family's schedule.
- **Daily Welcome and Goal Setting** for students in grades 1-8 with the whole class or advisory to share goals and have a shared strong start to the day.
- Shortened and More Interactive Live Sessions for grade 2-8 zoom classroom sessions and more interactive activities to make our "live" or synchronous learning times more impactful. And we've added live small-group zoom classes for grades K-1.
- Addition of Live Sessions for Social and Emotional Connection through whole-class community-building zoom classes (K-1), staff hosted daily virtual "recesses" (G3-8), weekly enrichment class (P.E., Art, and Music) opportunities, and weekly virtual Circles (G2-8) for well-being check-ins and nurturing community connection.
- Decrease in one-on-one video calls for K-5 students. Small group instruction will be the primary way that teachers will support student learning. One-on-one video calls will occur based on the needs of a student.
- Inclusion of Yu Ming's Technology Privacy Policy to make you aware of the School's policy in regards to recording of class sessions and protection of student privacy.

Please take a few minutes to visit your child's new Student Learning Page linked in the **Distance Learning Guide** and on our **COVID-19 Updates Website**, print or pick up paper materials, and practice logging in to your child's learning application accounts. If you have any issues accessing your class learning page, please contact Karla

Stine at **<u>kstine@yumingschool.org</u>**. For any other access issues contact the Technology Support Hotline at **<u>tech@yumingschool.org</u>** or 510-220-7982.

Chromebooks and Hotspots Available

The school will have additional chromebooks available to families who need to borrow one as well as access to internet hotspots. Please contact the Technology Support Hotline at <u>tech@yumingschool.org</u> or 510-220-7982.

Packet Pick Up for Grades K-4 on Fridays, 12:30-4:30pm at Upper School Campus

Families of grade K-4 students may pick up printed packets on the Friday before the learning week from 12:30-4:30pm at our Upper School Campus (675 41st St.). Going forward, there will be no printouts for grades 5-8 as all materials are digital.

Distance Learning 2.0 Tutorial for Grades K-1, Monday April 13

If you still need clarification after you have explored the newly organized Student Learning Page, join us for one of two Distance Learning Tutorials on Monday, April 13. Please register for one of the times linked below if you would like to attend. Only registered participants will be permitted in the zoom meeting:

- 8:00-8:20am session registration
- <u>4:00-4:20pm session registration</u>

Coming Back After Spring Break and Looking Ahead to the Rest of the Year

We have missed our students and are excited to welcome them back to school after our Spring Break week. All students in Grades 1-8 will begin live classes on Monday, April 13 at 8:30am. Kindergarten students will begin with independent work and a small-group live class later Monday morning.

Although the current county-wide shelter in place order has not extended beyond May 3rd, given the State Superintendent's and Governor's announcements last week, we have begun planning conversations around the possibility of a school closure through the end of this year. As we learn more, particularly as our public health officers continue to monitor trends in the region, we will announce opportunities to share ideas if we must reimagine our usual end of year school events and family engagements.

For now, our focus remains on staying healthy, supporting the well-being of our students and community, and continuing to strengthen our distance learning program. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out with any thoughts or questions.

Wishing you good health and wellness,

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Sue Park Head of School