

Dear King families,

I hope you are enjoying this glorious day! There are two main topics of which I want you to be aware.

### **Attendance and permission to make choices for your family**

Many of you have reached out to classroom teachers and/or me expressing your high stress levels because of our current virtual status. These times are very challenging indeed, especially for families.

You as the parents/guardians of your children, you know what's best for them and your family. Many of you have inquired about different "attendance" requirements because the online learning days are long and/or exhausting. In addition, it has been difficult for lots of our students, particularly in the younger grades, to be on a screen for big chunks of the day. We know how difficult it is to sustain attention and focus with the online learning. There are basic needs for movement, social connections, exercise and play. In this setting, those are currently restrained.

So, I would like to very clearly state that it is your decision as parents about how "much" of the daily lessons/teaching are appropriate for your family and or child(ren). You may do what you think is necessary to sustain life and learning in your home. Flexibility is both possible and essential.

At the same time, each of our outstanding and conscientious King teachers will continue to teach both synchronously and asynchronously. They have scheduled whole group instruction and small group time. There are valuable classroom subjects (reading, writing, math, science, social studies, health) and the special area classes. Our special education, reading and ESL teachers are supporting individual student needs. We will continue to take attendance, evaluate and grade assignments, and complete report cards. There are full days of learning and yet we know that it may not be feasible for every family or every child to be able to fully participate all day.

#### These are examples of questions that I have been asked:

"Is it okay for my Kindergarten student to attend class from 8:10 until lunch at 11:40 A.M. and call it a day?" Yes.

"Would it be alright for my child to go to his grandmother's house three afternoons a week for childcare and not be online?" Yes.

"I would like my child to go to a youth enrichment in-person activity two afternoons a week, is that okay?" Yes.

## How can we help and support your family?

**All student absences regardless of the reason must be reported to the school.** The secretaries, Robyn Skodzinsky and Carrie Richardson, will need to call families if a child is marked absent. Therefore, it will be very important for you to email them if your child will not be present. **Use this email [kingattendance@aaps.k12.mi.us](mailto:kingattendance@aaps.k12.mi.us)**

If you know you are going to opt-out of some times each day/week, you may also fill out the **regularly scheduled absence google form**. On this you are indicating times when your child is regularly not in school and we will mark your child absent-excused. The secretaries will not call or contact you regarding absences that are regularly scheduled by using this form:

### Regularly Scheduled Absence Form

We hope this helps address some of the tangible concerns that many in our King community are experiencing.

## **Zoom Authentication—Action needed, please**

Thank you to everyone for your efforts to get your child's Zoom account authenticated. We know that this was a challenging process for some of you. However, our team has been working over the past few days to help get all accounts authenticated. Currently, 80% of students are authenticated. Our goal is to have 100% authentication by 5:00 PM tomorrow.

If you/or your child is not authenticated, PLEASE check his/her school email account.

Here's how to authenticate:

### Zoom Authentication

- All students/families must authenticate Zoom accounts **before Monday**.
- Here are the instructions on how to do this:
  - [English](#)
  - [Spanish](#)
- During the authentication process, families will need their child's Google login information and password.

o This was sent, via email, on August 30th and Thursday September 17th

with a subject line: AAPS Student Login Credentials.

o If families cannot locate this information, they should contact their child's teacher or email the office professional.

- If you cannot authenticate your child's account please email:  
family\_techsupport@aaps.k12.mi.us