

## Anser Charter School

April 6th, 2020

Today the Idaho State Board of Education voted to extend the soft closure of schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. This means that Anser will continue to provide remote learning for the rest of this school year, unless this order were to be lifted. While this is disappointing news for all of us, we understand that this decision is made in order to keep all of us safe.

As we have rolled out our remote learning plans we are trying to do simple well with equity for all. Our guiding intention has been to keep things simple, accessible to all families, and as manageable for parents as we can make it. Over the next few weeks, additional components of remote learning will be introduced that will provide new opportunities for learning. One that we think your students will be excited about is starting at 1:00 PM Tuesday through Thursday. Captain Richard will create some exciting, follow-at-home science experiments, computer programming walkthroughs and even host some educational Minecraft demos. Go to www.mrincorvia.com and click on the YouTube Live Streaming button to take part!

As this time of disruption continues, many families will be facing additional financial pressure. We have launched a Family Support Fund to help address family needs. This may include sending grocery gift cards to families or helping with other needs that may arise. If you are able to donate please <u>use this link</u>. If your family is in need of a grocery gift card, please contact Heather Dennis at <u>hdennis@ansercharterschool.org</u> and we will work to get you what you need.

Also, remember there are many locations throughout Boise where you can get a grab and go meal for your child. You do not have to be enrolled in the Boise School District. You can find those locations by <u>using this link.</u>

We think it is important to remember that we may all be experiencing a great deal of stress and anxiety right now. We understand that you didn't sign up for being home school parents, and at the same time you want your child to continue learning as best they can this year. We support you and your family in working through this challenge in the best way you can. You are parents before you are teachers. Take the pressure off of yourself to be perfect or to get it right every time. If your child is experiencing a great deal of stress about their lessons, its okay to back off and to reach out to their Crew Leader for ways to support them. Instead of trying to recreate the school experience, share the things you love learning about with your children. Read or listen to books together. Take the simple opportunities around you each day as you cook, or work in the yard, or do the laundry to teach. Take walks to see the natural world in your neighborhood. If you can, try to take time for yourself to recharge and to rest. This time will pass and one day our school community will all be together again. We will be so excited when that day comes!

In Crew, Heather and Michelle