

Happy Friday Bronco Families,

I'd like to begin by acknowledging that the remote learning we are currently implementing is really tough and frustrating for kids, teachers, and parents alike. We are all trying to control those things that are within our realm of control, which is somewhat limited right now. The Bailey community has always been a special place with lots of student success and that still continues today, just the success comes in a much different form right now. Please accept my thanks for all that families are doing at home to help students stay connected, complete assignments in Canvas, and simply attend their virtual classes each day. My only request is that you return a thank you to one of your student's teachers in the near future as I know firsthand that they are working harder than ever to make sure our kids are getting the best we can possibly provide. Let's all just hope that this whole mess is a once in a lifetime experience that ends soon!

As we enter week three, our glitches with technology have decreased, yet are still an ongoing work in progress. I have put a couple of new tips and information in the "Top Eight" this week, as well as, some repeats to help parents troubleshoot. Some of the tech issues are on the CMS side, while others are either accidental or intentional user error. We are finding that some students are starting to play the "my computer kicked me out game" or bypassing the Zscaler screen, which impacts functionality with Zoom and Canvas. In addition, students are not completely logging off and shutting down their Chromebook each night, which is causing the majority of connection issues with getting on to Zoom, Canvas, NC EDCloud, etc.

Chromebook Care

We want to remind you to only charge these devices when they need charging. Never leave Chromebooks plugged in and unsupervised for long periods of time, like overnight. Also, it is best to always use the devices on surfaces that allow for proper ventilation like a desk or table. Prolonged charging and limited ventilation can damage the battery, the operating systems and cause the machine to shut down completely. Proper care will ensure our devices do not malfunction and last as long as possible.

CMS Eats - Parents who have signed up for meals through CMS will need a student ID badge as proof when you pick-up or receive delivery of these meals. We have made ID badges for these students and parents can swing by the school at any point to get these from the front office.

Top Ten for August 28, 2020

1. Please refer to the [attached](#) "New Asynchronous Days" schedule update that will create less screen time each week for our students without changing their class schedule or class times. A document explaining this change is [attached](#). We will be sharing this with students today and will remind them of this change the day before their new "Asynchronous class" each week.

2. We are also seeing an increasing number of absent students daily that we are tracking. If students are absent, they still must go in to Canvas and complete the assigned work for that day. They also need to communicate with their teacher once they complete a late assignment so credit can be given. *Parents should use the attendance link on our website to report an absence so it can be excused.*

3. Please begin checking PowerSchool for missing assignments and grades that are posted for work completed in Canvas. Students will be getting weekly participation grades so being prompt and active on daily virtual meetings is important. Not all grades for Canvas assignments will be used as an official grade in PowerSchool.

4. Students will not be accepted into virtual class meetings unless they have their correct name showing and their camera on. This is a security measure to eliminate "trouble" from entering these classes. If they are having trouble entering a virtual class, please have them email the teacher to troubleshoot or at least mark them present.

5. It's really important to set a schedule for your Bronco that will get them out of bed and ready for school by 8:45 am. We are still seeing a number of kids not logging on for Thunder Time/Homeroom or shutting down/refusing to use their camera. This is where their official daily attendance is taken.

6. Students coming late to class or leaving way early has also started to increase. We will be marking them tardy for being late (2L in PowerSchool) and also documenting if they are chronically leaving class early. Thank you for helping to get students ready each day for success!

7. Most of our student login issues are due to students not signing in through both the initial Chromebook login and then into the Zscalar security portal. Once they do both of these, all programs should work just fine.

Initial Chromebook login:

Username - studentID@student.cms.k12.nc.us

Password - YYYYMMDD (DOB)

Zscalar login:

Username - studentID@cms.k12.nc.us

Password - YYYYMMDD (DOB)

8. Agendas and Honors Math 7 Workbooks - Unfortunately, these have not arrived to be distributed this week as planned. We hope to get these soon and potentially distribute next week...stay tuned!

Create a Great Friday,

Chad O. Thomas
Principal

