Hello McDonald Families,

I hope you have a nice weekend and the beginning of your week is going well. Below are responses to the some of the most common questions I received this week, as well as a detailed plan about library curb side pick-up and the supply pick-up process moving forward.

COMMON Q&A FROM THIS WEEK:

Q. Can you tell me more about what McDonald is doing in the way of family wellness and social/emotional support for student and caregivers?
A. Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is an important focus for McDonald International during remote learning, and all our students are engaging in SEL with their classroom teachers this fall. In addition to these focused SEL lessons, our School Counselor, Ms. Katie, can support your child and your family with any the following:

- Weekly grade-level groups, drop-in office hours for students, and 1:1 meetings (Please note that individual meetings are as needed and are non-recurring.) [Click here for Katie's full schedule and meeting links]
- Join Katie and other caregivers/parents on Wednesday mornings at 10:00-10:45 to talk about the challenges of parenting during COVID
- Watch our Webinar "Helping Kids Cope with Stress During COVID" if you missed it last Spring
- Check out Katie's Counseling Corner for links, videos, and other fun tools for social emotional learning at home

We want all our students and families to have the tools they need to make remote learning successful this fall. If your family needs help with school supplies, technology support and/or other financial assistance, please email Katie. She would love to connect you with resources.

Q. I received an email from SPS saying my application to volunteer has expired, what do I do?
A. Sometime over the next 2 weeks PTA will send out information related to (re)applying to be a volunteer at McDonald.

Q. Is there going to be Curriculum Night this year?
A. Yes, but it will be a bit different this time around. The purpose of Curriculum Night is for parents and guardians to meet with classroom teachers and/or a specialist to learn about grade level curriculum and expectations for the school year. **Curriculum Night will take place on Wednesday, September 30.** Teachers will email you direct links to join their class-specific sessions.

- Specialists (Art, Music, PE) will hold a joint session for 4th and 5th grade families from 5:30 to 6:00.
- 4th and 5th grade teachers will hold their sessions from 6:00-7:00.
• K through 3rd grade teachers will hold their sessions from 7:00-8:00.
• Specialists (Art, Music, PE) will hold a joint session for K through 3rd grade families from 8:00 to 8:30.

* If you are unable to attend, do not worry, teachers will email out materials after the event.

Q. **Do we have a new custodian?**
A. Yes, we do! Please join me in welcoming (back) John Mangune.

Q. **I am having technology issues. Who can help?**
A. Issues related to technology should be directed to SPS Tech Support. If you visit the SPS technology webpage, you will find a significant amount of information (including helpful videos) and a number you can call to speak with someone (7:00 to 6:00, Monday through Friday). Also, once a week (Friday night) please shut down and restart your device. All devices need to be on for the device to received updates, but a once a week reboot seems to help with functionality.

Q. **Is there a way to pose questions to Ms. Goldberg other than through email?**
A. I’m glad you asked! Join Ms. Goldberg for “Coffee with the Principal” each Wednesday from 9:00 to 10:00. This will be an online drop-in group event where you can ask me questions or just say hello! **This week Ms. Facilla will also be there to answer Seesaw related questions.**

Join Microsoft Teams Meeting
+1 206-800-4125 United States, Seattle (Toll)
Conference ID: 931 736 068#

Q. **Can teacher’s disable the TEAMS chat? And, did you know that my child can create a private chat with peers?**
A. Unfortunately, we do not have the ability to disable the chat. I have provided feedback to both Microsoft and SPS, stating that teachers need to be able to do this. They are working on it. As far as student’s creating their own chats, students should only use chats in TEAMS that are created by teachers. Currently students have the ability in TEAMS to create private chats. We are communicating to students that they should not be doing this but have no way to monitor if they are doing it. We are asking parents to monitor the chats in your child’s TEAMS app to ensure that students are following through on expectations. Again, SPS is working with Microsoft TEAMS to limit this feature for students in order to prevent distraction, inappropriate posts, and exclusionary or bullying behavior. We encourage kids to connect with each other on different platforms to socialize that you and your family are comfortable with.
LIBRARY CURBSIDE PICK-UP & SUPPLY PICK-UP

Q. Can you tell me more about Library Curbside pick-up?
A. Beginning Thursday October 1 and every Thursday after that, 1st through 5th graders can pick-up their reserved library books from 11:00-3:00 pm.


- Mrs. Finnegan, how do I put a book on hold? Go to the Curbside Pickup page to watch the video and/or read the Quick Reference Document (QRD) on how to put a book on HOLD in Destiny Discover. Then, be sure to read the rest of the details on how it works.
https://mcdonaldes.seattleschools.org/academics/library

- What if I haven’t returned all my books from last year, can I still check out a book? On Wednesday you may receive a courtesy reminder of books you still have from the McDonald library. The reminder will list a fine. Please remember that as soon as the books are returned, the fine will go away. Having books currently out will not affect your student’s opportunity for participating in our Curbside Pickup. Thank you for helping us get books back on the shelves for other students to enjoy.

Q. What should I expect when I come to pick up reserved library books and/or additional materials?
A. On October 1st and every Thursday to follow, you are invited to pick up/return reserved library books, and any additional materials your teachers have let you know are available.

Q. When should I come?
A. 11:00 am-3:00 pm according to the first letter of your last name:
   - 11:00 am-12:00 pm A-F
   - 12:00 pm-1:00 pm G-L
   - 1:00 pm-2:00 pm M-R
   - 2:00 pm-3:00 pm S-Z

Q. What if I am unavailable during the time assigned to my last name?
A. You can come at a different time within the 11-3 block of time or come by the main office entrance from 8:00 am-3:00 pm, Monday, Tuesday or Friday and ring the bell. Additionally, you can schedule a time outside of these hours with Zoe Facilla at zvfacilla@seattleschools.org, or you can send someone else like a childcare giver, friend or neighbor to pick up for you.
Q. Is it required to drive a vehicle, or can I walk up?
A. Either is fine. Please wear a mask, keep distance, and do not congregate to chat with neighbors and friends. If you drive, please travel East on 55th and find the traffic cone sign that matches your last name. There will be 3 spaced out on the sidewalk (with tents if it is raining) as follows:

- Traffic Cone 1: Last Names beginning with A-B, G-H, M-N, S-T (situated closest to the staff parking lot and furthest West)
- Traffic Cone 2: Last Names beginning with C-D, I-J, O-P, U-V (situated in the middle)
- Traffic Cone 3: Last Names beginning with E-F, K-L, Q-R, W-Z (situated near the opening to the playground and furthest East)

Q. When I pick up reserved library books and/or materials can I also return library books, unwanted devices, forms, etc.?
A. Yes, we would love it if you would.

Q. If there were items, I didn’t pick up previously, will they be available during curbside pickup?
A. Yes, we will have items left behind during previous pickups so you can get them all at once.

Q. What will staff members ask me when I arrive?
A. Your student(s)’ name(s), grade, what language besides English they study at McDonald Intl (Spanish or Japanese) and which teacher they have for their morning class.

Q. I have a different question you did not ask in this newsletter, who should I contact?
A. Questions regarding library book reserve, pickup and return should be directed to Susan Finnegan, our librarian at scfinnegan@seattleschools.org. Questions regarding materials pickup should be directed to Zoe Facilla, our Assistant Principal zvfacilla@seattleschools.org.

As always if you have questions or concerns, please reach out to me or your child’s teachers.

Sincerely,

Michelle Goldberg