ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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April 9, 2021

Dear Arlington Elementary Online Families,

Spring greetings! It's hard to believe that we are now in the final trimester of the 2020-2021 school year. We have learned a great deal about online learning since the beginning of the school year. I am reaching out with some resources and feedback to help your children learn most effectively from home for the remainder of the school year.

We have some resources available to help.

- If background noise is an issue, you can request a wired headset with microphone from your child's teacher. We will prepare a headset for pick up at school. If transportation is an issue, we will make arrangements to get it to you.
- If having a dedicated learning space is an issue, you can request the loan of a student desk and chair from your home school.
- If internet connection is an issue, you can contact your school's main office to see if you qualify for a free Hotspot.
- If your Arlington issued Chromebook is having difficulty, please visit our <u>Parent Technology Help Desk</u> to see our <u>Chromebook Troubleshooting Guide</u>. You can also fill out a <u>Help Form</u> if needed.

In addition, there are options for low cost home high-speed internet access for those who are eligible.

- <u>Altice Advantage (through Optimum)</u>. Covid-19 internet access offer for families with K-12 children and college students at home. 1-866-200-9522. Additional eligibility requirements may apply.
- <u>Spectrum. Covid-19 internet access</u> offer for families with K-12 children and college students at home. 855-243-8892. Eligibility requirements may apply. New customers only.

As a reminder, we have the <u>Parent Technology Help Desk</u>, where you can fill out a form for help as well as review our <u>Chromebook Troubleshooting Guide</u> and other support resources.

We have found that students are most successful when:

- They have a quiet place to work throughout the day.
- They are able to join each session of class on time with their materials ready.
- They have their cameras on. This helps teachers know when they are struggling, it helps teachers give feedback to their students, and it helps students connect with their classmates.

If any of the above tips present a challenge, please communicate with your child's teacher as to how to best keep the communication going throughout the lessons (e.g. using the chat feature).

Thank you for being partners with us as we continue to improve your child's online learning experience.

Sincerely,

Ellen J. McDonnell, Ed.D. Director of Innovative Technology