

Dear Pinnacle Parents,

We have learned a great deal from this week and will continue to modify and develop our e-learning program throughout April to maximize remote learning for our adored students. In my perspective as Head of School, there are three things that remain undeniable at the outcome of this week. First, our Pinnacle Academy school community is strong. The communication, feedback, encouragement, and mutual respect that has been collectively shared across our parent, faculty, and student bodies has united us even while we are apart. Secondly, I am inspired to see that our mission to provide a customized learning experience for our students is evident even during this time of abrupt change. Your gratitude for the faculty's efforts to reach their students and kind emails and messages to support this are resounding. And finally, despite the unusual and inconvenient circumstances that we all find ourselves facing, our Pinnacle faculty and students are already conceiving ideas and projects to help our community. The Technology Student Association is exploring ways to utilize our 3D printers to make necessary products to support those who need them the most, while our elementary is thinking about ways to show our gratitude to those people who are working tirelessly on the front lines of this pandemic. I am sure the weeks ahead will bring new discoveries, but these were worth sharing with you all.

Another area that has brought discovery this week, is management of the virtual classroom. Our faculty has reported amazing results on student attendance and participation. They have collectively developed a few thoughts on the Rules and Etiquette in the Virtual Classroom, which we would like for you to review with your student prior to Monday's classes (see attachment). Students will be reminded of these rules as needed. A number of schools across the country have had experiences with both network instability and security breaches in their online learning platforms. Please know that our faculty was debriefed and trained in the use of Zoom prior to our e-learning launch. They are utilizing specific security controls that only allow known students to enter and participate in our classrooms. We will continue to monitor this aspect of our program as we move forward.

Please continue to provide open and honest feedback to your teachers and our Administration, as we value this experience from your view. Know that while we are missing our daily routines, we are thankful to have the technology to keep Pinnacle "together".

Wishing you a safe and restful weekend,

Dr. Kirstina Ordetx