From the Principal:

This week we welcomed back cohort D students to in-person learning. For the most part, the students made an amazing transition. We continue to reinforce expected behaviors as students were remote for weeks and also have the challenge of being in school one week and then home the next. I want to applaud the students and teachers for all the hard work they put into these weekly transitions. Please continue to remind your children at home of the importance of being safe and making good decisions at school.

I want to give a huge SHOUT OUT to cohort D families for arrival procedures this week. For the most part, families have been following drop-off procedures and as a result the students are safer, more students are getting to class earlier, and parents are able to get through the line quicker. Cohort C, let’s see how you do next week!! The biggest area for improvement at this time is that parents should NOT be getting out of cars. Please have students ready to exit vehicles before you come to a stop in front of Silvia. A reminder of procedures can be found in this week’s Spotlight.

I want to thank all our students and teachers who participated in our GRATITUDE dress down day this Friday. We saw so many staff dressed as students and students dressed as staff. We are truly GRATEFUL for all of our Silvia Stars and second to none EDUCATORS! Also, parents, thank you for supporting your child(ren) with their attire for the theme day.

Pivot Back to Hybrid Learning

Dates to be Aware of:

Week of March 1, 2021:
- Cohort C students return to in-person learning for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
- Cohort C/D students return to in-person learning for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
- Cohort D students are remote learning model for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
- Cohort A students remain in-person learning for Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
- Cohort B remains full remote learning
- All cohorts are remote learning on Wednesday

Requests for Hybrid In-Person Learning On Hold

At this time we will NOT be taking any more requests for a transition from remote learning to hybrid learning. We had an opportunity for this earlier in the winter and set an original deadline for requests. The deadline has come and gone and we are at capacity with safety guidelines in place. We will revisit opening this up to families once again in the early spring.

SILVIA STARs
Stay safe * Treat others with kindness * Always do your best * Respect yourself, others, and the school
Arrival Reminders for Drop-Offs:

These procedures are in place to ensure safety and to support all students with getting to school on time. The below listed reminders are not our arrival procedures in total (found HERE) but are listed as areas of improvement. I know we can all work together to make sure we are doing what is in the best interest of our students.

1. Please have students ready to exit the car **BEFORE** you pull up to the curb. Typically, you have time waiting in line to have students prepare to exit the car.
2. Please do **NOT** get out of your car. If you have a child lock, then ask a staff member to open the door. Some parents are getting out of the car with their child(ren) and then on the sidewalk preparing them to walk into the school. This takes up too much time and potentially is causing other students to lose time on learning.
3. Pull all the way up to the stop sign in front of Silvia School. Some families are stopping at the entrance door and as a result preventing five or six cars from having students exit their cars.
4. Do **NOT** pull around cars passing them on your right.
5. When your child exits your car, and cars begin to pull away, please do the same. There are staff members present to support your child with getting into the building safely.

If you have any questions, please let me know. Again, I am confident that we can all work together to support our students.

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MCAS News:

We have been notified by the Massachusetts Department of Secondary and Elementary Education that MCAS testing will occur this year. There will be adjustments made from how testing has taken place in previous years. At this time, we just want you to be aware of the testing windows and we will follow up with more information as we formulate a clear action plan for MCAS.

- ELA - April 5 - May 7
- Mathematics - April 26 - May 28
- STE (Grades 5 and 8) - April 27 - May 28

Grades 3, 4 and 5 will be expected to take one session of both ELA and Math.

Grade 5 will also be expected to take one session of Science, Technology and Engineering.

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Upcoming Dates/Events:

- Please find our school calendar [HERE].

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Silvia Summer Academy and Enrichment:

We are currently applying for a grant through the Massachusetts Department of Secondary and Elementary Education that would provide funding for a Summer Academy and Enrichment. One step in the process of creating such an opportunity would be to gain data on family interest. Next week, I will be presenting a survey to families to collect this data. In addition, I will present what the summer academy and enrichment will look like to give families a good idea of what to expect relative to time commitment and structure of the program. Please take the time to fill out the survey so we have data to inform decisions.

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SILVIA STARs

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