



School Community Newsletter — March 5, 2021

1066 Front Street, Manchester, New Hampshire 03102

Phone 603.316.1170

www.sparkacademynh.org

DEAR PARENTS & FRIENDS OF SPARK,

RETURN TO ALL IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION...

As we complete our first week of all in-person instruction, I want to thank all of you for working as thoughtfully as you have. Most of our students have been with us each day, and we can see the difference that in-person makes. With our students in the classroom with us, we can provide direct assistance to help them complete assignments successfully and on time. We know that the few students who have remained remote have done so for good reason; however, we strongly encourage in-person attendance as much and as soon as possible.

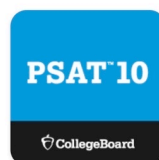
I know these are extremely concerning times; however, I also know that our students learn better with direct human interaction. An important element of teaching is the sense we get from a student's body language, tone of voice, and facial expressions to "see" when our students are "getting it." That is difficult to do remotely, especially with a program such as ours that features so much hands-on learning.

This decision certainly rests with our families, but I strongly urge every student to attend their Spark classes in-person if possible. We are proceeding with the utmost care to provide a safe environment for everyone in our school because we truly care about each member of our school community. Please do not hesitate to contact me at denismailloux@sparkacademynh.org with your questions or concerns.

PSAT 8/9 & 10...

Information regarding these two standardized tests was provided in last week's newsletter. Therefore, I will impose on you to read that material again. However, we do have a few points of information to add.

- Students should get a good night's sleep.
- Students should eat breakfast as food is not allowed during the entire testing period: 8:00 am to Noon.
- School check-in will take place as it does every school day.
- Students should be in their classrooms by 7:50.
- Students will be dismissed at approximately Noon, at which time they may be picked up.
- Students who must wait for a ride at the end of the school day (3:00 pm) should bring their lunches.
- Students remaining until the end of the school day will be able to catch up on their work and/or view an art history documentary with me.



College Board PSAT 10

Bulk Registration enables districts and states with contracts for College Board's PSAT 10 assessment to submit student registration information securely online. Once the process is complete, schools receive pre-identification labels for student answer sheets. Learn more at: <http://www.collegeboard.org/bulkreg>



DAILY WALKS...

Our movement on the MCC Campus is still quite limited. However, we will be able to take time mid-day to walk with our students around the buildings when the weather permits. As of Monday, students should bring appropriate outdoor clothing every day. We can all use more fresh air while compensating to some extent for our current sedentary school life.

MORE DISINFECTANT WIPES PLEASE...

I want to thank those of you who have helped us out with your donations of wipes and hand sanitizer. We could use more disinfectant wipes if you have the time and the means to send some in with your students. Once again, we thank all of you for helping us out!

NEXT VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 6TH, FROM 6:30 TO 7:30PM...

Our last virtual open house was very well attended! Thanks to all of you who helped us reach out to prospective families. We are well on our way to a very healthy enrollment for next year. Please continue to help us by spreading the word about the upcoming date. You may contact Spark parent and board member Sue McGowan at susan.mcgown@sparkacademynh.org for a yard sign to help us advertise the upcoming date.

SPARK SWEATSHIRTS...

Are finally available again! Put your order in for your sweatshirt(s) by completing the attached form and sending it in with payment to Mrs. Larochelle. If you have any questions, please email her at jennifer.larochelle@sparkacademynh.org. You are welcome to order sweatshirts for other members of your family as well as for your student.

Once again, we thank all of you for making the year work as well as it has. We are getting there!

Sincerely,



Denis Mailloux
Director