

Good Morning Parent(s), Guardian(s) and Student(s),

I hope you had a blessed Easter and a restful Spring Break! We are excited to be back with you via our digital classroom. As we start 4th quarter there are a couple adjustments and changes that have been made to ensure the success of our students for the remainder of the year. Following the news yesterday, Mayor Lightfoot alluded to the fact that there is a good chance that the governor will extend the stay-at-home initiative into May, meaning there is a good chance that schools will be closed for a longer period of time. However, there is still a lot unknown about the potential timeline for our return and we will continue to keep you abreast of what is happening. At this time I would like to share with you the adjustments that we will be making.

1) **Adjusting the calendar:** It is extremely important that we continue to keep our community connected through digital learning. The teachers have expressed to me that there is a lot of work they are doing to prepare appropriate lessons and at times it is hard to connect, and the students have expressed interest in being able to connect more often. With that being said, moving forward, as long as we remain digital, **Mondays will be dedicated to teacher-student conferencing** or give our students and teacher flexibility and a chance to get work done that they couldn't, or build a little more balance into their school week. **Tuesday will be "A" days, Wednesday "B" days, Thursday "C" days, and Fridays will be "D" days.** Additional adjustments will be made if there are already pre-planned days off during the week.

2) **Adjustment to Grading.** In order to minimize the social emotional impact that being quarantined for such a long time will have on our students we have moved to flexible grading in order to help them maintain success. [Please read more in the linked powerpoint to learn more about what will be changing.](#)

3) **Opportunity to provide families with a meal.** I am extremely excited to be a part of a Big Shoulders Initiative pairing local businesses with families to provide food to families. [Please fill out the attached form in order to let me know if you would be interested in being provided a meal.](#) All meals would be picked up at Josephinum Academy during lunch time. Other details will be provided in the near future. If you are still interested in receiving a free fresh meal, but do not think you can get back to Josephinum, please contact me directly and I can try to connect you with another Big Shoulders Fund school that is closer to your home.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about moving into the 4th quarter and the adjustments that are taking place or the meal provided. You can reply to me via the email or reach out to Renee Vai (Director of Curriculum and Programs) at renee.vai@josephinum.org, Gerald Raines (Dean of students) at gerald.raines@josephinum.org or Yartiza Dejesus (Director of Student Services) at yartiza.dejesus@josephinum.org.

Your partner in education,
Colleen

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Colleen Schrantz
Principal

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