



Unatego Elementary School

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"Autumn... the year's last, loveliest smile."

William Cullen Bryant

"I would rather sit on a pumpkin, and have it all to myself, than be crowded on a velvet cushion."

Henry David Thoreau

"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."

L.M. Montgomery

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As we continue this unique school year, with a mixture of in-person and remote learning, we are already into the month of October. The leaves are showing off their beautiful colors, the buses are making their rounds each week, and we continue to learn more about teaching remotely and working with online programs. Technology has taken on a much more powerful role in our daily educational lives.

As we continue to educate students during this pandemic, I want to share one additional quote today. It is from S.C. Lourie, a poet.

Breathe darling, this is just a chapter. It's not your whole life story.

Although this school year will continue to be affected by social distancing, remote learning, and modified school schedules, this is just a chapter in each student's school story. It is not the entire story, and eventually, we will be able to return to a normal school day. Right now, it seems as though this current situation will last forever, but it won't. Together, we will get through this, and once the puzzle of COVID-19 is solved, we will be able to return to normal school activities. In the meantime, thanks for your patience and understanding. We are also grateful to you, the parents and guardians, for working with your children at home and letting them know that school is important (no matter how it is being presented this year).

Here are some updates:

1. Elementary School Photo Days

October 21 and October 22

For our all-remote students, we have scheduled time for you to come in for photos. Those times are: October 21 from 3:30 – 7:00 PM and October 22 from 3:30 – 5:00 PM. We sent home additional information and the school photo packets to everyone.

2. Masks in school

For each student attending the hybrid in-person schedule, we provided two cloth masks for use in school. Students may also wear a cloth mask (or a paper medical mask if they so choose) each day. We would like for students to refrain from wearing neck gaiters. These gaiters are very thin and end up in the students' mouths and, therefore, stay wet all day. A cloth mask with ear loops would be preferable.

Updates continued

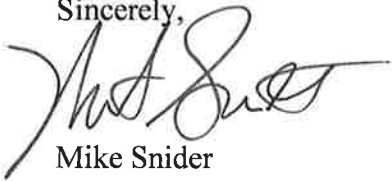
3. End of Trimester 1 – Unatego Elementary School

The end of the first trimester is on December 11, 2020.

For parents/guardians of students who selected the all-remote learning option for the first trimester, if you are considering changing to the hybrid learning model for the second Trimester (where students attend school in-person two days per week), we will need to know of your intent to change from all-remote to the hybrid model by Friday, December 4th. I will be sending out a separate mailing to the all-remote students in November regarding this. Once we have this information, we can provide you with the necessary information to help you make the return to in-person instruction two days per week.

Please don't hesitate to call or email me if you have questions, concerns, or would just like to chat about education.

Sincerely,



Mike Snider

