



March 21, 2020

Dear Students and Parents,

Congratulations on completing our first week of distance learning at Fontbonne! It has been a very busy week for everyone as we adjust to our new normal. As of today, **March 21, 2020**, there have been no cases of COVID-19 reported in our community. We are aware of three cases in the town of Milton. That being said, we continue to pray for all of our families and encourage you to please abide by the social distancing order that has been put in place to flatten the curve and reduce the spread of the Coronavirus. We are in touch weekly with the Milton Department of Public Health and will continue to keep you informed.

This time of transition has been challenging for all of us. The administration has been considering the input we have received from school counselors, teachers, and students throughout the week. We are all learning together; learning about each other, and learning about *Distance Learning* itself.

As a result, we are making changes to our weekly schedules beginning **Monday, March 23**. In the event we will need to continue Distance Learning beyond **April 7, 2020**, we are providing a **Weekly Calendar** for the next four weeks. You can make your own copy and enter your specific classes into the blanks. Our prayer is that we will be back in session and we will not need to use all four weeks.

### **Major Changes in the Schedule**

- Most classes will be 30-minutes long - starting and ending times have changed.
- Lunch will now be 30-minutes long. During this time we ask you to close your devices and enjoy the company of the members of your family who are practicing social distancing with you.
- On Wednesdays **NO CLASSES** will be held. Instead students should use the time to complete homework and long-term assignments, reach out to teachers for extra help, spend time reviewing and learning what has been

presented in recent lessons. We also suggest spending time away from devices and going outside or being with family.

### **What Stays the Same**

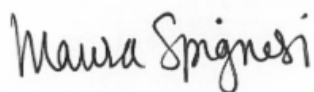
- Period 5 will still provide a 60-minute block for labs, presentations, guest speakers, etc.
- We will follow the letter day schedule as it is in our calendar/planner, as best as we can.
- Teachers and counselors will continue to support student learning.
- Extra help sessions are programmed into the schedule, and the Academic Success Program will offer study skills and tutoring support.
- We will keep the lines of communication between home and school open to address any of your concerns.

As we navigate this new normal, we are grateful for all of you! The strength of our community is so evident in times like these. Our adults are working extensive hours to plan lessons, supporting one another in best practices as well as meeting up for community time to engage with one another. I know our students are missing their daily interactions with friends and adults, yet they are also hanging out on google together listening to one another and encouraging each other through this difficult time. Thank you for being flexible, for sharing your feedback and for continuing to live Fontbonne's mission.

I am so grateful for Fontbonne and all she is for each one of us!

May God continue to bless our community; holding you all close in prayer.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Maura Spignesi". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Maura" and last name "Spignesi" clearly legible.

Maura Spignesi  
Head of School