JAWS Bits ’N’ Bites

April 27- May 1, 2020

Updates from JAWS

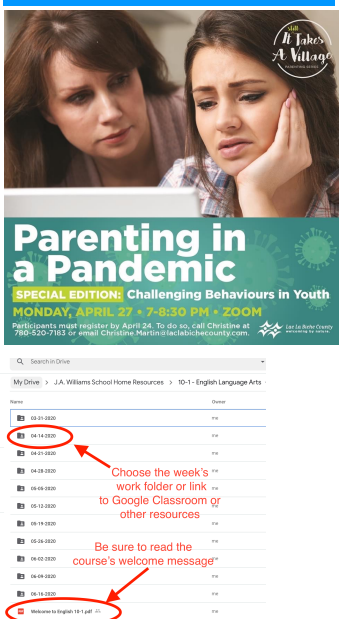
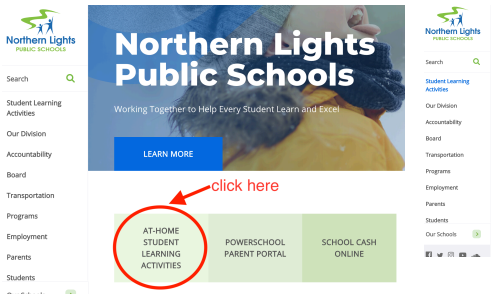
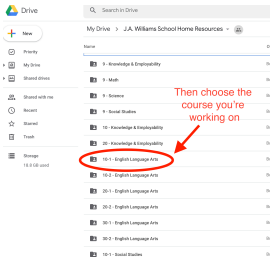
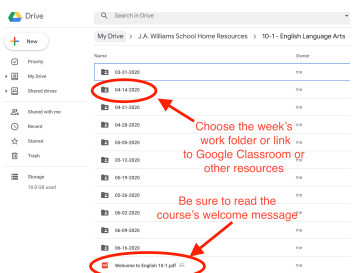
Staff have been calling and emailing students to check in regularly; if your child is able to check their NLPS email, please have them respond if they haven’t already. If you are not receiving any calls, please contact the school with updated contact information at 780 623 4271. If your family has a wireless internet connection at home and require a device to work on their continuing learning, contact the school to book a time to sign one out. You can also request to sign out books from our library if you are completing an online novel study and prefer a paper copy. If you are picking something up, call from your vehicle or come to the front door and ring the doorbell and **remain outside**; a staff member will help you.

Expanding Supports for Families in Need

Many families have been negatively impacted by the pandemic, and Northern Lights is responding with ***Food for Thought***! Our staff know first hand that our learners are more successful with a healthy meal in their bellies. Staff put together hampers, and NLPS transportation made deliveries last Tuesday. JAWS chef John Dolan (of *Saucenator* and *Pitchfork Fondue* fame) has been busy all week making and freezing meals that our transportation department will then deliver to families in need this week. Any family with Northern Lights students can contact the school directly and we will add you to our list for delivery, which will begin on **Tuesday of each week**. Contact the school to add your family to our list! This week has frozen lasagna on the list, along with the hampers which will typically contain some dry goods like pasta and sauce, some canned meats, vegetables, and fruit. Call the school or please tell anyone you know who might have a family to who needs a little extra help during this crisis!

Continuing Programming at JAWS

Last Tuesday morning, JAWS staff walked into a heart-warming message from students. This speaks to something we might all be forgetting in this challenging time — high school curricular content is important, but it is not as important as the development of good citizenship. I proudly recall the reaction of our students during the Fort Mac evacuation and their rising to the occasion to volunteer and support those in need, and these few letters in chalk reminded me that this school community has terrifically selfless and passionate students with leadership skills, diligence, and great resilience in the face of adversity. Continue to encourage your child to follow AHS guidelines and do what they can so slow the spread of this pandemic; each precaution taken might help save someone more vulnerable. We miss our students dearly, and truly hope this health crisis is a crucible that builds their capacity for empathy, understanding, and an awareness of their role in the larger world as a good citizen in their community. That said, curricular **learning still continues at JAWS**! While ‘classes’ might look different, consider what your child needs in this moment to be most successful next year. Consider where they were as of their last report card. Graduating students may want to focus on the skills their post-secondary course might require; students moving on into a more challenging academic course at JAWS may want to focus on the pieces they need to be ready for that, and students who were not passing as of March 13th should contact their teacher to see what they can do to increase their mark to an acceptable standard so that future course placements are not negatively impacted. If you aren’t sure how to access your child’s learning, or you worry they ‘missed to much’ already, rest assured your child can jump in any time — see below! Final grades will be submitted in June based on what your child has been able to demonstrate to the teacher of that course. Follow the steps below to find your course information and contact the school if you need help.

Important Dates

- April 27 - Parenting in a Pandemic session
- April 28 - the ***Food for Thought*** program expands!
- May 15 - Family Friday
- May 18 - Victoria Day
- June 5 - Family Friday
- June 26 - Grad 2020 **(POSTPONED)**