



SHONTO PREPARATORY SCHOOLS

Haleebéé Na'nitin Binahj8' Da'Ólta'7 Binits4kees d00 Bina'nitin Bidzúil
Empowering Student Learning Through Quality Education

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April 3, 2020

Dear Shonto Preparatory Staff, Families and Community:

We would like to thank you for your patience and understanding during this uncertain period that we are going through. This is challenging our way of life and routines as a school district and community. The information below is the latest information we have received from the state of Arizona and the Navajo Nation:

Shonto Preparatory Technology High School (Charter):

On Monday morning, March 30th, Governor Ducey and Arizona Superintendent Hoffman called for school closure of all Arizona schools for the remainder of the school year. The Arizona Department of Education states, "*School closure is **NOT** a complete shutdown of school operations and instructional obligations to students. During school closures, staff are still expected to engage in work-related activities, and students and families are expected to meet the instructional requirements of their teachers and schools.*"

Shonto Preparatory K8 School (Grant):

On Tuesday afternoon, March 31st, the Navajo Nation Board of Dine Education passed a resolution that directs "the physical, face-to face closure of classroom instructions of all school campuses on the Navajo Nation,... for the remainder of the 2019/2020 school year." They also encourage that schools continue providing additional learning opportunities to students "through online resources or materials that can be sent home and communication to parents."

Continued Learning Opportunities for SPS Students -

We understand your concerns about continuing your child's learning during this time. We ask for your understanding as we are planning for learning materials that will developed into "learning packets." The Navajo Nation Board of Dine Education and the Arizona Board of Education further encourages all education institutions operating on the Navajo Nation to use continuous learning activities such as web-based technology, video conferencing, or alternative means of delivering instruction. Schools should make every effort to provide continuous education and learning opportunities through online resources or materials that can be sent home and communication to parents. We have plans to thoroughly sanitize the educational buildings for the safety of our students, staff, and parents. Learning packets will be available when the buildings are fully cleaned.

Therefore, our tentative plan for continued learning opportunities for our students at SPS:

- a) K-8 will provide opportunities for learning through digital resources. Classroom teachers will be communicating with parents and students to provide additional learning opportunities with a digital page on our school website that has educational links recommended for each grade level by our elementary teachers. At a later time, we will plan to provide learning packets which will be delivered by our school transportation department using the bus routes. Stay updated with the “text messaging” system for more information as it becomes available.
- b) High School parents and students will discover links to access assignments on our school website. Please visit our website. Continued education will begin April 13th through online access and we will make other arrangements for those students that don’t have online access. Be patient as this will be forthcoming.

We also recognize that not all families have digital devices or internet access; so, we need to ensure that each family understands that completion of the learning activities is not required nor will students be penalized for lack of technology access. Additionally, other details that relate to grading, graduation, etc. can be found on our school website in the FAQ link: www.shontoprep.org

Your health and safety is our priority. Your partnership is essential and we would like to give thanks to our community, families, and teachers who are consistently enhancing your child’s (ren) education despite the obstacles. Please stay home, stay healthy, and stay connected.

Sincerely,

SPS Administration

Melanie Dewakuku
K-8 Principal

Cheryl Grass
High School
Principal

Kenneth Cooper
HR Director

Ronald Thompson
Superintendent