

MESSAGE FROM THE **DIRECTOR**

Dear Athlos families,

I hope that your family is doing well during this time of uncertainty and quarantine. This has been an adjustment for all of us.

Governor Walz's Executive Order not only closed schools until further notice but it has also presented schools with specific expectations during this closure. Athlos Academy is committed to adhering to these expectations but also to going the extra mile for our families and students. We implemented a distance learning plan for our students that includes grade-level recorded lessons, live virtual office hours with teachers, and online learning. We are also delivering breakfast and lunch to areas throughout St. Cloud where families can go to pick them up. Athlos is also providing technology for those families that may not have a device to access this education (refer to page 2 and 3 of this newsletter for more details).

Even though school is closed, we are still accepting new registrations for the 2020-21 school year. Athlos Academy is committed to meeting the needs of all their students and providing them with the best education in the St. Cloud area. If you know a family who wishes that for their children, have them go to our website and enroll. They may also call the school with questions. Athlos Academy has incredible teachers and staff who are exceptional educators that care for each and every child.

We will continue to communicate any recent developments and news to families as information becomes available. We miss you all!

Respectfully yours,

Randy Vetsch



Randy Vetsch



The mission of Athlos Academy of St. Cloud is to provide high quality educational opportunities for the whole child built on the three foundational pillars of Prepared Mind, Healthy Body, and Performance Character.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ATHLOS ACADEMY OF ST. CLOUD -



SCHOOL BOARD MEETING : APRIL 27, 5 to 7 p.m. (See website for information on how to access this meeting)



Athlos V Distance Learning Week

Students are invited to share on social media what they are learning at home during our Athlos ♥ Distance Learning Week, April 20-24.

Monday: Show your distance learning workspace and what you like about learning from home.

Tuesday: Share a photo of your "pet classmates."

Wednesday: Show a photo of yourself doing your favorite online distance learning activity. Why is this your favorite lesson?

Thursday: Share a photo or video of yourself doing movement breaks at home. Why is this your favorite movement break?

Friday: Share a completed class project or assignment you are proud of.



Tuck-In Tuesdays

Join us Tuesday evenings for "Tuck-in-Tuesday!"

Every Tuesday, we will share a new video on our Facebook page and Instagram page of a member of our staff reading a story for our students! Videos will be posted on Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

See you there!

DISTANCE LEARNING



Athlos Academy is providing students with distance learning during our closure. This is to assure students are being provided with educational opportunities during this unprecedented time. We will stay in close contact with families and be on hand to assist parents with access to lessons, teachers, and technology.

If you do not have access to technology, we ask that you please contact the school at (320) 281-4430.

Below is our distance learning plan, including expectations of students, helpful resources, and access to teachers and support staff. We will continue to keep lines of communication open between home and school through virtual meetings, email, and updated information on our website at <u>www.athlosstcloud.org</u>.

Access to Distance Learning Resources, Lessons, Teachers, and Staff

We understand that moving to a new learning platform can be a challenge. Our educators have been busy preparing recorded lessons for children to participate in during the closure. Lessons are available for each grade level and are broken down by subject. Lessons will be published on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Each of our teachers will be holding virtual office hours to assist students with their lessons.

All of these resources and more can be found at: https://bit.ly/3a2v0bm

Additional Expectations of Students

In addition to participating in recorded teacher lessons, it is expected that Athlos Academy of St. Cloud students participate in 2 hours of learning per day during the duration of school closure. This additional learning should take place through Study Island and Reading Eggs. If you did not receive your login information or are having problems accessing, please contact the school.

MIND+BODY+CHARACTER

Athlos Academy is a unique public charter school that prepares students for success in three ways.

PREPARED MIND

The Prepared Mind Pillar at Athlos Academy of St. Cloud is centered on academic programs that will prime students with the knowledge and critical thinking skills they need to excel.

While school isn't in session physically, we are still teaching and learning during our closure. All students are expected to be participating in the school's distance learning plan.

The Minnesota Department of Education is requiring schools to take daily attendance of all students during this school closure time as they should be participating in the school's distance learning.

Starting Monday, April 6, all students will need to log in to either their Reading Egg account for students in grades K-2 or their Study Island account for students in grades 3-8. When they log in, it acts as an attendance tracker. This will need to be done each school day between hours of 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. Students who do not log in will be marked absent.

All distance learning information is centrally located on our <u>Distance Learning Document</u>. This is the primary source for distance learning and includes links to lessons, information on office hours, video resources, and more. Please save the link to this document. It is updated daily with the most recent information.

If you do not have access to technology and have not yet received a device from the school, please email Randy Vetsch at rvetsch@athlosstcloud.org.

Find answers to commonly asked questions on our website at www.athlosstcloud.org.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTER

The Performance Character Pillar is the foundation of school culture and promotes 12 key character traits: Grit, Leadership, Social Intelligence, Creativity, Courage, Energy/Zest, Initiative, Curiosity, Integrity, Optimism, Humility, and Focus/Self Control.

We'd love to see how your family is exhibiting and practicing Athlos Performance Character traits at home! Are you creating works of art, helping out with chores around the house, focusing on your at-home work? Share photos of your family engaging with Performance Character by posting on our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/ AthlosAcademyStCloud/. We look forward to seeing your photos!

HEALTHY BODY

We are still providing healthy meals to students during our school closure! We will be bringing meals into the community and will have specific meal drop locations and times. Families are welcome to meet our buses at specified times and locations to pick up grab-and-go breakfasts and lunches daily M-F starting Wednesday, March 18, 2020. For questions, contact the front office.

The locations and times are:

8:20 – 8:40 a.m. 16th St S and 8th Ave. S A2623 Clearwater Rd.

8:45 – 9:05 a.m. 1515 6th Ave. S 520 15th Ave. SE

9:10 – 9:25 a.m. 624 13th St. S 20th Ave. SE

9:30 – 9:50 a.m. 1710 University Dr. Athlos Academy of St. Cloud 3701 33rd St. S



KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Athlos families. While we are in the middle of an uncertain time, we are also optimistically looking forward to next school year! We are still accepting kindergarten applications and registering new students for our 2020-2021 school year.

If you have a student entering kindergarten next school year, it's time to register them. Start by filling out one application per incoming kindergarten student at <u>https://athlosstcloud.org/enroll/apply/</u>. From there, you will receive information via email on completing the enrollment process. We are excited for what the 2020-2021 school year has in store for our school community!



TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Thank you all for providing your feedback about our school transportation through the Family Transportation survey in April. After carefully assessing all family feedback given on the survey, we have determined that it will be in the best interest of our families to continue service with our current bus provider, and to not change our school start or end times.

We will continue to take feedback we collected through this survey, as well as given throughout the school year, to work to improve our transportation and busing. We have been working with our bus service provider to assure we are meeting the needs of all students and addressing concerns. If you have questions, please email me at_ <u>rvetsch@athlosstcloud.org</u>.