



**Foresthill Divide School**  
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Family Newsletter: January 8, 2021

Hello FDS Families,

**FDS Principal News:** I am pleased to report that we had extremely good attendance and participation from our students for the first week of Distance Learning at Home (DL@H). On behalf of the teachers and staff, thank you for the support of getting your children to their computers for attendance and learning.

Below is important information regarding current matters.

**Upcoming Important Dates:** January 5 to January 15 – Distance Learning at Home (DL@H) (no in-person instruction on campus) for all students, January 11 @ 6:30p – Board meeting, January 15 – Distance Learning Materials Drop-off and Pickup (11:30a – 1:00p in the “Grab and Go” meal roundabout), January 18 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No School), January 19 - Small Group 5 (all students in grades 5 – 8) First Day, January 20 – Picture Day, January 21 – Safety Drill, and January 27 – Safety Drill.

**Board Meeting:** The next regular Board meeting is Monday, January 11 starting at 6:30p. Due to the current COVID-19 (C19) landscape, the meeting will be held via Zoom teleconferencing. Agenda and access information will be on the district website no later than today at 5:00p.

**Picture Day:** Picture Day is set for Wednesday, January 20. Students scheduled for in-person instruction for that day will have their pictures taken during school hours. Students scheduled for Distance Learning at Home on that day will be able to drop by the school from 1:00p to 2:00p and 3:00p to 4:00p. Ordering online is very simple and will be available soon. Order forms will be emailed out by the teachers and hardcopies will be available through the daily “Grab and Go” meal roundabout from 11:30a – 1:00p starting on Monday.

**Bus Agreement:** This is a friendly reminder that only students with submitted and approved bus agreements will be able to ride the bus starting on January 19. Please be sure to turn in your signed agreement as soon as possible.

**Kids Club:** It is currently anticipated that Kids Club will reopen on Thursday, January 21. More information will be provided soon.

**DL@H Extended Through January 15:** As a follow-up to the robo-call that was sent yesterday, DL@H has been extended through January 15. Given the extraordinarily high rate of COVID spread at this time, low hospital ICU availability, and many other factors, these are certainly challenging and dangerous times for us all. While some schools have never opened for in-person instruction to date or some have planned for limited to no in-person instruction for this week and next due to COVID concerns, FDS is extending our DL@H program due to many of those same COVID concerns. Additionally, as some of you may be aware, a Kids Club staff member reported COVID positive Wednesday afternoon. We have made the appropriate notifications and have closed the childcare program for at least two weeks. Taking our current landscape in totality, it is my firm belief, in consultation with Board President Peoples, that extending our Distance Learning at Home program for one more week is by far the best course of action.

With that said, our first day of resuming the in-person instruction on campus schedule will be Tuesday, January 19 after the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

Please know that all of us at FDS are proud that our school has one of the highest, if not the highest, percent of in-person instruction per week on campus in the region to date. I absolutely believe that our sacrifices now are unquestionably a worthwhile investment to safeguard and protect many future weeks and months of in-person instruction at our terrific school with our fantastic teachers.

**Positivity, can-do spirit, supportiveness, and kindness** continue to be terrific from our school, families, and community.

I want to steadfastly assure you that we at FDS are always committed to serving your children and you.

Thanks. Jack

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