Dear Austin Road Elementary Students and Families,

We so miss each and every one of you during this time of remote learning and look forward to the 2020-2021 school year when we can welcome you back to school and once again gather together as *the Jaguar Family.*

In her letter to families last week, our Superintendent, Mary Elizabeth Davis, provided you with some clarity and encouragement as we enter into the final month of the school year. I wanted to echo her words of support and optimism, as well as provide you with an additional level of detail on how we will be handling final grades for students during this unprecedented time. The following grading scenarios will be used as we conclude the school year:

* **If a student was academically successful (passing) in Quarter 3, and continues to engage, participate, and complete work in remote learning:** Quarter 4 grade will be represented by the better of the two grades earned in Quarter 3 and Quarter 4. When we return in August, an assessment of the essential skills and standards will be provided but there should not be a need to participate in additional after school opportunities, Saturday classes, or targeted time during Fall Break.
* **If a student was academically successful (passing) in Quarter 3, but is now unable to fully participate in remote learning**: Quarter 4 grade will be represented by the Quarter 3 grade; however, the learning of the essential skills and standards from Quarter 4 will still happen for these students. When we return in August, an assessment of the essential skills and standards will be provided to pin-point gaps our students may have as a result of this unprecedented moment. Additional time in after school opportunities, Saturday classes, and a targeted time during Fall Break will be provided for students to fill these gaps in Quarter 4 learning. Additionally, teachers will be provided unit planning guides that are adjusted to specifically address the review of these Quarter 4 standards and skills throughout the year in the context of learning new standards that require a solid foundation.
* **If a student was struggling academically (failing or low grades) before the district transitioned to remote learning, and has either continued to struggle during remote learning or is unable to fully participate in remote learning:** Quarter 4 grade will be logged as “Incomplete” in the course or subject and student will be invited to participate in the HCS Summer Learning Recovery Opportunity. During this time in July, students will re-engage in learning for the units in Quarter 4 in which they did not experience success. In some cases and as needed, students will get additional support on foundational skills covered earlier in the school year. In Elementary and Middle Schools, students who have been supported due to academic concerns prior to remote learning may be retained, with an opportunity to attend the Summer Learning Opportunity. If your student is in this situation, you would have been contacted prior to the onset of remote learning. No student will be retained solely based on performance in Quarter 4.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the school with additional questions you may have regarding your student or your student’s circumstances; we are happy to assist. And again, we miss you and can’t wait until we can all be together again in person.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lois Barney

Principal