

**Good Evening Brown Families,**

Hope everyone is staying safe and healthy as we move into the holiday season.

**Here are our Brown Updates:**

➤ **MAP Testing:**

- **We are in the middle of doing MAP testing for ELA (reading) for grades 1-5.**
  - **This is a district-wide assessment, along with a requirement for our K-3 Read by Grade 3 state law.**
- **Both In Building and Distance Learning students will be taking the ELA MAP test to help us continue to monitor student learning and growth.**
- **Distance Learning Parents:**
  - Your student's teachers are going to reach out to you with information on how to ensure that your devices at home are ready and prepared with the NWEA browser that is needed for distance learning students to take the MAP test at home.
    - I attached the directions to this email.
  - Please note, we are trying to get an accurate assessment of our student's academic level. This helps teachers to plan our instruction to our student's needs. Please do not aide/assist/help your students answer the questions, we really appreciate your support.
- We will be doing Math MAP testing for 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades and ELA MAP testing for Kinder in January.

➤ **Giving Tree**

- In the spirit of the holidays, Brown Elementary would like to provide the opportunity to help assist some of our Brown School families make the holidays possible. Due to Covid, we will not have a giving tree this year. Instead, we will be asking families to reach out to our school counselor if they would be willing to

“adopt” a family who may need extra support during this holiday season.

- If you are able to help please contact Lauren Mattingly:  
[lmatingly@washoeschools.net](mailto:lmatingly@washoeschools.net)
- If your family is in need of additional supports this Holiday please contact Lauren at the email listed above.

➤ **2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Learning Format:**

- We have been fortunate to have several learning models available this school year to match the needs of our students and families during the COVID-19 pandemic: Distance Learning and In-Person Learning. We appreciate the patience and understanding from our families during these uncertain times.
- During the last several months, we have seen success with our students and families becoming more comfortable with online platforms such as Microsoft Teams. Also, through the In-Person model, staff, students and families have been successful wearing masks, following physical distancing requirements, and practicing frequent hand washing.
- Our school community has also learned many things during this first semester including the impact of changing models on a student's education. Consistency is important for student learning; consistency supports routines as well as teacher -student relationships
- As we prepare for the second semester, we want to share the following important information with you:
- We will honor the request of our families to remain in their child's current learning model, Distance learning or In Person. If you would like to keep your child on their current learning model for the second semester, please click on the link below and complete the questionnaire.
- If you would like to change the current learning model for your child for the second semester, please also click on the link below that will allow you to share with us your choice.
- We are asking families to complete the questionnaire (link below) by **Wednesday, December 9th**. This information will be sent directly to the school and will allow us to better plan for the second semester. Once our families decide on a learning model for the second semester, students will remain on that learning model **for the entire second semester**. Families with more than one child will need to complete an individual questionnaire for each child.
- <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SfWSPDZezEGj3oIFnhId78ili7EnBFZGmGk4hUicdZtUOUMwQ0dCSzJET1dQNldWQIMyVTJMSlg0RS4u>
- Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete the questionnaire. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us at 851-5600.

**PTO:**

- Join us for our Christmas Drive-In Movie featuring the POLAR EXPRESS on the last day of school before break – Thursday, December 17th! This is a great way to experience a holiday movie on the big screen while social distancing, and the PTO would love your support for this fun and easy fundraiser. Invite your FRIENDS and FAMILY to drive-in and park next to you... this event is open to everyone! And don't forget, every purchase receives an entry into our raffle to win a REAL Lionel Polar Express Train Set, just in time to wrap and put under the tree! Specific details below and on our attached flyer.
  - Christmas Drive In Movie – Polar Express!
  - Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm (6:00pm arrival)
  - El Rancho Drive-In - 555 El Rancho Drive, Sparks
  - \$30 per car including a raffle entry for a Lionel Polar Express Train Set
  - Purchase here! <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/brown-family-movie-night>

## Upcoming Dates/Events:

- **Holiday Sing Along:**
  - **December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020**
  - **We will be having an outdoor holiday sing-along during the school day.**
  - **In person learners and distance learners are invited to participate.**
  - **Please check your child's class dojo this past week for a digital invitation to the event."**
- **District Calendar change!!!**
  - There **WILL BE** early release on Wednesday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>. Students will get out at 2:45pm.
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- December 17<sup>th</sup>: Last Day for students before Winter Break
  - End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Grading Period
  - PJ Day
  - Holiday Festivities

Sincerely,

Principal Bryan