Dear Hodgen Families,

Let me start by thanking you for your support and understanding as we responded to the unexpected change in the educational landscape due to COVID-19. As the principal of Hodgen, I am very proud of the teachers, staff, scholars, parents, and the many people that make up our Hodgen family. The way we have handled the demands with which we have faced during this time has been spectacular. Based on input from parents, in-school instruction is an option that is needed. I’m happy to announce Hodgen Tech Academy will begin in-person instruction beginning Monday, October 19th with Pre-K through 2nd grade scholars and Monday, October 26th for 3rd - 6th grade. The school day will be 9:20 a.m.- 3:17 p.m. Hodgen’s School Hours are 9:20am – 3:17pm. With this return to school approaching, I want to share several updates. Regardless of the option you select, we will have a parent meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, October 14th at 5:00 p.m. to share some information about returning to school as well as answer parent questions. The information for this parent meeting will be shared with everyone through TEAMS and Class Dojo. We will also have Parent Teacher Conferences Monday, October 19th through Friday, October 30th. More details will be shared soon for how to sign up for a conference time with your child’s teacher.

Hodgen In-Person Learning Announcements:

- **Arrival:**
  - At 9:00 a.m. Staff and signage will guide scholars to enter the building through Door 2, appropriately wearing a mask. All scholars **must wear a mask at all times.** We encourage scholars to come to school with an additional mask in their bookbags.
  - Scholars will be guided into the building by signage and floor decals allowing for social distancing.
  - Scholars will form two lines for health screening and temperature check.
  - Once scholars pass their daily health screening, scholars will report to assigned classroom.
  - Scholars who arrive late (after 9:20am) will go to Hodgen’s Main Entrance and check in with the office.

- **Dismissal:**
  - Dismissal will be staggered to allow for social distancing and scholars’ safety when exiting the building.
  - 3:00pm - Scholars who walk to school will be escorted safely out of the building and will return to assigned classrooms.
  - 3:05pm – Pick-Ups will be dismissed from the back parking lot off of Ohio. Scholars who get picked-up will wait in the cafeteria until their parent/guardian has arrived. When picking up scholars, parents/guardians will remain in their vehicles and follow designated U-shaped guidelines; parents will scan a QR code to enter in Name of Adult and Name of Scholar/s. At that time, scholar/s will be safely escorted to vehicle.
  - 3:17pm - Scholars who ride the bus will be dismissed as buses arrive.

- Scholars should bring their fully-charged iPad with them to school each day.
- All scholars will eat breakfast in the classroom.
- Water fountain use will be reserved for filling water bottles. Parents are encouraged to provide their child with an individual water bottle (filled with water and with the child’s name on it) daily.
- Scholars will remain with the same group of classmates in their classroom all day.
- Related Arts teachers will push-in to scholars’ assigned classrooms
- Scholars will eat lunch in the classroom.
- Recess will be provided at scheduled times; playground equipment will not be used
- A Recovery Room has been identified for any scholar who has COVID-19 symptoms. Parents will be immediately notified to pick-up their scholar. Nurse McCullough will monitor the Recovery Room.
- Scholars will engage in 60 minutes of independent, asynchronous work after 3:00pm. Teachers will provide information and assignments.
- All surfaces within classrooms and common areas will be sanitized frequently throughout the school day with products approved for use against COVID-19 and safe for children.
All visitors are encouraged to make an appointment with the school before visiting. Visitors will be required to wear a face mask and will have temperatures checked. Visitors must have a temperature below 100.4 degrees F to secure admittance to the school.

School assemblies, parent and community volunteer opportunities, and field trips will be done virtually until further notice.

Unleashing Potential will begin their before and after school program the first week of school! Please call the main office for more information or to sign up your child.

Hodgen Virtual Learning Announcements:
Hodgen is excited to be able to continue offering virtual learning for our scholars and families! Beginning Monday, October 19th, here are a few reminders:

- Instruction will begin with Morning Meeting each day at 9:20a.m.
- All scholars are expected to be online and engage in learning each day.
- Teachers will communicate your child’s new instructional schedule since teachers are now working with both virtual and in-person scholars and there have been changes to the school schedule.

Again, thank you families for your continued support to ensure the success of Hodgen Tech. We will continue to keep you updated on important items as new information becomes available. To help us do that, please make sure we have your correct contact information on file and join us on ClassDojo. We look forward to meeting with you on Wednesday, October 14th at 5:00p.m. via Zoom. If you need tech assistance, please send an email to: Hodgenparenthelp@slps.org or call 314-771-2539.

Sincerely,
Principal Kaiser