

October 12, 2020

Dear Parents,

As we are now entering week 4, a lot of our initial difficulties are calming down, but we still have some challenges. Number one is the student workload and helping students get caught up and continue to move forward.

Tell your students not to be discouraged! We hear and understand the workload problem, and we are continuing to move forward to get this issue resolved. Teachers will be talking to their structured Zooms this week to get a better handle on what needs to be reduced and how to reduce the material, and we are checking with the State of Oregon to ensure a level of work that will comply with state guidelines around virtual schools.

On the website, we are continuing to update with newsflashes, on the 6-12 tab. This website is actually not very useful for blog posts, and we will be changing the design to something more like the district pages, soon.

Students have some tools to help them in Edgenuity. The first is the Tutoring Help button that now appears on the bottom right of core subject pages (Math-Science-Language Arts-Social Studies)—this button was added last week. The second is the guided notes that are available in every unit. Students can use these notes to help them be more successful in the quizzes and tests.

The guided notes are available inside each lesson (on the blue bar on the left, or after a student clicks the plus sign on the right) for download and printing, or the student can download to their Google Drive and/or open the file with Kami, using the text tool to write their notes directly on the PDF.

A general instructional video regarding understanding student data and how to use the guided notes without printing is available [here](#), on the Options website under the 6-12 tab, and on the FRSD District website under the 2020 School Year tab, starring our own fabulous Ms. Hohnstein and a few of her structured students.

There has been some confusion around Edgenuity vs. Home Access. We are not entering grades into home access until the semester grade (Nov 13 for high school, Feb 5 for the middle school). But we are entering attendance in home access. Your child may be marked absent if they are structured and did not attend a zoom meeting, or if they are independent and did not work in a particular class on Tuesday-Friday. If one of these things happens to your student on an attendance day, please have them contact our attendance assistant, Brenda Russell, at brussell@fernridge.k12.or.us, by 3:30 pm to let her know they are working, and she will make sure to mark them present.

Next Monday, November 19, we will complete progress reports to send home to parents. Included in the report will be the student's current progress in the course, what their target

progress should be, the average grade on work completed so far, and the actual grade, factoring in whether they are caught up or behind.

Thank you all again for your cooperation and patience in helping to make this educational system work during a difficult time. We know parents are carrying a much heavier load than normal to help students in their schooling. We are all making the best of 2020, and looking forward to finding some sense of normalcy, hopefully by 2021!

The Options Parent Social Committee has developed a survey to help parents connect and coordinate social outlets for their children. This survey is voluntary, and any information you give out is given to a private party, not the school district. The Committee will operate independent of the schools. You can [access the Survey here](#). For further questions, please contact Blaine Hilton by email at blaine.hilton@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

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