



Didion Messenger - 8/30/20

Good evening Didion families,

I am so excited for the start of the year! While we know this will be a first day of school unlike any other, I truly believe that our students will still feel that familiar Didion magic when they log in to see their teachers on Thursday morning.

Here are some important updates and reminders.

Junk Email Folders

We have found that for many parents over the last several weeks that emails from SCUSD addresses have been going to junk mail folders, even when that has never been the case before. Please check your junk mail folders for any @scusd.edu emails.

Make-Up Distribution: Monday, 8/31, from 8:30-10:30

We will have a make-up distribution drive-through tomorrow from 8:30-10:30. Families, please follow the same route through the staff parking lot, and follow all of the same safety protocols that were established for the other distribution days last week. Please remember to have a sign in your window with the student's first and last name, and teacher name. If you had previously reserved and requested a Chromebook, make sure to write "CB" in large, dark letters on your sign.

If you are not able to attend tomorrow's make-up day, please contact Ms. Lily (lily-tang-vaughn@scusd.edu) in the main office and she will arrange for an alternate pick-up time for you.

Daily Schedule

I realize that families are anxious to know what the actual daily schedules will be starting on Thursday. I promise you that our teachers are just as anxious to know that information as well. At the time of this message, we are still waiting to learn final guidelines on daily schedules as a result of on-going negotiations between the district and SCTA. I will share this critical information as soon as we know more.

Didion Website, District DL Website, and Mr. Eder's Welcome Orientation

We are almost ready for the unveiling of our brand new website, which will be a one-stop shop for all things Didion moving forward. Additionally, once more information is finalized by the district, Mr. Eder will post a brief "welcome" orientation video this week. I also encourage all families to check out the district's Distance

Learning website (<https://learn.scusd.edu/>) which includes incredibly helpful information to get all students started on 9/3, as well as other valuable resources and tutorials.

Clever Log-in and First Day

Many students and families may receive specific instructions from teachers on what to do on the first day of school. But generally, all students need to do on Thursday morning is to log-in to their Clever account and select their Google Classroom class and read the teacher's instructions on the Stream.

I encourage all families to have their students try logging into Clever prior to the first day of school. If you have difficulty logging in, or your student cannot remember their password, reach out to your child's teacher or Mrs. Rechs (catherine-rechs@scusd.edu).

Class Community-Building

Lastly, I want to let parents know that while we acknowledge the eagerness that we want our students to dive back into their learning, and address any gaps that may have widened since the tumultuous spring, we also need to take time to welcome students back into the rhythm of learning. We also want to acknowledge the social and emotional needs of our students as they attempt to transition to our new mode of learning and instruction. It is important for us to take time to connect with our students, and really invest in building relationships and creating a safe and supportive virtual classroom environment. For this reason, I have told teachers that it is OK to "ease" back into learning. We only have one chance to start the year right, and we need our students to feel engaged, comfortable, and supported from day one. There will be hiccups and challenges, but just like we always have, we will work together through them.

Thank you all for your continued support. As always, please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Have a great night!

Mr. Eder