

Hello Red Hawk Families,

Hope you had an enjoyable weekend and are doing well.

Following are updates and important information for the week of September 28 – October 2:

- **End of Quarter 1:** The end of the first quarter, **October 9**, is an important checkpoint. It means we are halfway through semester one and interim grades will be posted soon. Up to this point, your child should have shared two 5th period progress reports with you. Also, if your child was in danger of failing any of his/her classes, you should have received an email from the school in addition to the in danger of failing (IDF) notice. The interim grades are another way to monitor your child's progress prior to the final semester grades. Interim grades will be viewable on Parent Connect after October 16, but you can check current grades at any time. If your child is doing well, please encourage her/him to continue. If any of your child's grades need improving, please contact individual teachers for more information.
- **GoToTutors Offers Free Tutoring To Students By Students:** GoToTutors was established by three Santiago High School students. The free online service provides peer-to-peer tutoring in a wide range of subjects for students in grades K-12. You can find more information in the [CNUSD Connection](#) community newsletter or by visiting the GoToTutors website: www.gototutors.org
- **Combat Cancer Virtual Walk:** El Cerrito Middle School has a team participating in the Combat Cancer Virtual Walk on October 17. If you would like to join us, you can sign up using this link: [Combat Cancer 2020](#). Our team name is El Cerrito Team Alwardt when you register. All proceeds go to the Support Sisterz, who support women in the Corona-Norco area who are battling breast and other cancers. A great group of people and a great cause.
- **School Safety:** For information about how safety will be addressed across CNUSD when we physically return to school, please access the [2020-2021 School Opening and Safety Plan](#). **We do not have a return date**, but you can expect additional information on how the plan will be implemented at El Cerrito Middle School prior to our return.
- **ECMS PTSA Board Positions:** El Cerrito PTSA has board positions open and is looking for parents interested in getting involved. No volunteering is necessary. Just a willingness to help and be a part of something great! Please contact Camille for more details or questions. carmichael43@gmail.com
- **PTSA Reflections:** It's time for Reflections! We invite all students to use the arts to share their personal reflections on this year's theme, *I matter because. . . .* Students can show their creativity in one or more of the following categories: dance, choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography, and visual arts. This year, VIRTUAL entries are accepted. Please see the attached information for more details. [ECMS Reflections 2020-2021.docx](#)

- **ECMS PTSA Membership:** Please join the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) and help support our students as they navigate this ever-changing learning environment. The PTSA provides resources to administrators, teachers, and students so they can focus on what they need to do to succeed. This year's membership drive is entirely online. Please follow the link and sign yourself and your student(s) up today (**list your child's fifth period teacher when asked**)! Each membership is \$7 (plus a small processing fee that we don't control). Thank you for your continued support! <https://jointotem.com/ca/corona/el-cerrito-middle-school-ptsa>.
- **Child Nutrition Services Meal Program:** CNUSD Grab & Go meals are FREE for all students through December 31, 2020. Meals will continue to be distributed curbside at most CNUSD school sites on the first day of each week. Students will receive breakfast and lunch for each school day. Students need not be present, but parents and/or students are asked to provide valid CNUSD pin numbers for all meals, just as we do during the typical school year. A student may receive only one bag of food per week. **Click here for times and locations.**
- **Suicide Prevention Awareness Month:** The Board of Education **approved Resolution 50** proclaiming September as **Suicide Prevention Awareness Month**. The social-emotional health of our students is vital. CNUSD students have access to a free anonymous crisis text line. Text CNUSD to 741-741 for free, 24/7, confidential crisis support by text. Mental Health resources can be found here: <http://cnusd.k12.ca.us/mentalhealth>.
- **ECMS Office Soft Opening:** Our front office is open to the public by appointment only and restricted to those that cannot do business virtually. Appointments are available from 9 am-11am and 1pm-3pm.

Guidelines:

- Limit 2 visitors per family
- Limit 4 visitors in the lobby at a time
- Mandatory Temperature screening
- Mandatory Facemasks
- Mandatory Sign In
- Please call 951.736.3216 to make an appointment

Again, we ask that you only come to campus if you cannot do business virtually, and that you have an appointment before coming to campus. You can reach us by phone during our regular office hours – 7 am to 3:30 pm.

- **Digital Library:** ECMS subscribes to Overdrive/Sora, which gives our students access to ebooks and audiobooks through the [CNUSD Digital Library](#). Students can access the digital library through MyCNUSD or by using the [direct link](#). Students also can download the Sora app and sign in to El Cerrito Middle School.
- **General Reminders:** To make sure you have the latest information from CNUSD regarding the current school year, please visit [2020-2021 School Year](#). Also visit the [El](#)

[Cerrito Middle School website](#). To stay up to date, visit both sites regularly. If you are not receiving notifications from CNUSD or El Cerrito Middle School, you can visit our [website](#), and click on the Parent tab for directions on getting started. You also can use the [SchoolMessenger](#) app or website to receive texts and emails with the latest district updates. For specific classroom or learning questions, email your child's teachers. You can access teacher emails on our website. For general questions not answered through any of the suggested resources, please contact ECMSAdmin@cnusd.k12.ca.us.

Have a great week.

Sincerely,

The El Cerrito Middle School Admin Team

- Dr. Shelly Yarbrough, Principal
- Mr. Scott Brenneman, Assistant Principal
- Ms. Shawna Philips, Dean