COVID-19 Shut Down – **Tech Edition 5**

**Tips, Resources and Ideas on Integrating Technology, Teacher Appreciation, and more….**

It is time to make the shift! Let’s start to think about how to move forward. While we should wait for the Governor to tell us how the economy will start to re-open, retailers to tell us how the stores will re-open, the CEO of CMSD to tell us how the schools will re-open, we need to decide for ourselves how our families and our homes will re-open and move forward.

While you have the complete autonomy to decide what the future will look like for you and your family, one thing I know, it will include technology! Yes, technology will be even a more important part of our lives. Not just for calling, texting, and surfing social media sites, but for teaching, learning, and connecting with family and friends! This is why our newsletter is titled the “Tech Edition”. It has resources, tips and ideas on integrating technology into our everyday lives to help us be a valuable and informed part of the "new normal".

CMSD Information Technology department states: "*While undoubtedly beneficial, the internet can also be dangerous. Everyone knows it, but not everyone takes action. Take the initiative to be open and honest with your scholars about dangerous internet usage. Talk to them, empower them, and most importantly, educate them. Here are several tips to keep you safe online: (1) Talk to your scholars about their lives on social media, (2) Keep up with the platforms and apps scholars are using, (3) There’s always a chance their online activity and content can become public, (4) Talk to scholars about the consequences of sharing their personal details on social media and which information to always protect online, and (5) Help scholars make a plan for what to do when things go wrong.*"

For more information, please visit our Security Awareness website: [http://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/Page/11527](http://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/Page/11527).

If you need assistance with your laptops or hotspots, please call the **IT Help Desk at 216-838-0440**

*Back to business as usual? I don’t think so……*

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CMSD Family Resource web page: [https://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/Page/15615](https://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/Page/15615)
Google Tools and Activities for Arts Education
Although there is no replacement for getting your hands dirty with finger paints, technology can offer many ways for students to be creative when making art. In addition to creativity, technology can also allow students to explore and learn about art in new and engaging ways.

Click the link to find out more: https://www.techlearning.com/news/google-tools-and-activities-for-art-education

Interacting with the Internet
With so much learning and the majority of our news happening online, knowing how to navigate and being able to verify what you need is a vital skill. The folks over at Crash Course, a wonderful series that makes learning more interactive, have a 10 video course on navigating digital information that includes online reasoning and evaluating evidence. These are great skills both for students as they do research and for adults who are active users of the internet in general. Click the link above for the full course, and visit the Crash Course channel to see all their other topics and videos for all ages. Happy browsing!

Field Trips From Your Living Room
Attention families of high school students! College and university campuses may be closed and visits may be postponed, but that doesn’t mean the college search on hold. Next week, May 4-6th there will be an online college fair. Visit https://virtual.gotocollegefairs.com/ to register and attend.

The Best Online Resources for Caregivers and Their Children
Have you run out of ways to entertain your child(ren) while they are at home? Well you are in luck! Check out https://www.themanual.com/culture/best-online-resources-for-parents-and-kids/ for activities to do together. This list features things like PBS Kids, National Geographic Kids, Seussville (Dr. Seuss), and many more things you and your child(ren) may find useful.

Web of Fun!
Here are 3 Websites with, games, videos, books and more to explore learning in an innovative, exciting way with technology from home.

1. Funbrain - an educational browser game website for children and adults. It was on this site that Diary of a Wimpy Kid was first published before being turned into a successful book series and movie franchise.
2. https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/ National Geographic for kids is a website that has videos, games and books that help children discover Science, Geography, History and World Culture.
3. https://www.exploratorium.edu/ The Exploratorium isn’t just a museum; it’s an ongoing exploration of science, art, and human perception.

Teacher Appreciation Week
Explore this link to find virtual ways to thank teachers and show them some love: https://www.pta.org/home/events/PTA-Teacher-Appreciation-Week
VIRTUAL SOCIAL EMOTIONAL WELLNESS RESOURCES FOR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

Now more than ever it is important for parents/caregivers to practice self-care physically, spiritually and emotionally. Please check out Session 3 of Dr. Purnell’s wellness sessions. This week the focus is on learning strategies to “melt away the fear” and deal with anxiety through movement and visualization.

To access the pre-recorded session click on the link below:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KeBY7q9oY2U

Preparing for post-secondary education
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A short term post-secondary option is an Associate degree. Associate degrees are necessary when a career requires some formal education (a degree) but not necessarily a Bachelor’s degree.

The Associate degree, a two-year degree, represents the first half of a Bachelor’s degree. Scholars seeking an Associate degree have the option to pursue a Bachelor’s degree or to seek viable employment with just the Associate’s degree. The following careers only require an Associate degree: Culinary Arts, Hospitality Management, Early Childcare, Sign Language Instructor, Dental Hygienist and Massage Therapist.

For care-givers whose scholars are anxious to get into the workforce quickly consider short term post-secondary options like the ones listed above. Community colleges specialize in short-term post-secondary programs. Care-givers and scholars should browse the community colleges’ website to help in the preparation for post-secondary education.

*Northeast Ohio has three (3) community colleges that offer affordable and convenient Associate degrees:

Check out the Bureau of Labor Statistic at www.bls.gov to learn about careers, pay, job outlook, education needed, and work environment. Also note, any career that requires a license or certification will require a return to the classroom every 2-3 years to renew the license or certification.

Txt 216-278-8705 with ideas and topics you would like included in this weekly newsletter.

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