**The “Learning From Home” Experience Project**

**June to September 2020**

On March 13th, 2020, our school was closed and life as we knew it stopped. The advance of Covid-19 in our country brought things to a standstill. We had to rethink how we do most things that happen outside the walls of our homes. The word ‘unprecedented’ became more and more familiar to us, which is ironic. Familiar tasks that we did without thinking became something that needed to be strategically planned and executed with precautions and protective equipment! The ‘learning curve’ remains steep, and just when something seems to become routine, there is another ‘bump’ and changes are made.

This is history in the making. It is something that will be talked about, written about, analyzed, and critiqued for decades, and you have been experiencing it first-hand.

As a way of ending this year and as an introduction to the new school year, I have created a project that will help you to record your personal history and experiences of living in the time of a global pandemic.

The Assignments for this project will be completed over the next five months or so, depending on how much progress is made in fighting Covid-19. It will be easier to record and gather information as it happens and while the experience is still fresh in your mind. That is why I am giving you an outline for this project now. Here are the parts:

1. Read articles and information about Covid-19. “What In The World?” and “Currents4Kids” have articles for this and I will share these with you as part of ‘Learning From Home’. Others may become available.
2. Gather information about topics relating to Covid-19 and how it affects you. You will be given graphic organizers to help you record this.
3. Write a letter to yourself to be opened and read 5 years from now. In the letter you will be explaining what life is like living during a global pandemic – what has changed, how you feel, what you see that is different, your questions and concerns, your predictions for the future and what you hope to be doing in 2025.
4. Create a **“Multimedia Time Capsule”** to be stored away with your letter. In the capsule, you will place items that are helping to define 2020, things that help to give specific meaning to this time and experience. It might include:

\* posters of warnings or precautions that must be taken before entering buildings

\* a mask or patterns for making masks

\* pictures of deserted parks or streets

\* videos of families at home

\* songs and poems written

\* Tik Toks

\* current trends and fashions (PJs or sweats as work clothes)

\* newspaper clippings and magazines

\* lists of cancelled events

These items will help to answer the questions, “Where were you in the time of Covid-19?” and “What were you doing, or not doing?”

1. Your “Multimedia Time Capsule” could be in the form of:

\* artwork (posters, paintings, storyboards)

\* video

\* PowerPoint

\* short story

\* original song

\* scrapbook

\* commercials and advertising

\* recordings of public service announcements

\* ideas and suggestions for possible treatments and/or cures

\* theories and research

\* collection of artifacts (or photos of items)

1. A specific due date, rubrics and exemplars will be provided in September.

So, over the summer, you should start collecting items for your Time Capsule and to begin thinking about what you want to do. Over the summer, you might want to have a journal where you can record events and ideas related to Covid-19. I think it will be easier to gather these as they happen. In the fall, you will bring your ideas and complete your project.