

October 5th 1:45pm eblast

Good afternoon McKinley parents and guardians,

As the pandemic continues, we know that students may have increased anxiety. Especially as students may recognize people in the news or know others who have tested positive, students may worry about what would happen if a friend, family member, or themselves became sick.

As part of our on-going efforts to support our students' emotional and mental health, and ease students' anxiety and worries about COVID-19, our Counselor Mrs. Carla Nunez and School Psychologist Ms. Breea Rosas have gathered a variety of resources and information to support families during the pandemic. Over 50 resource documents are available here

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1IHk6C_FSHP50ixCkRIeOZVe3LIACSAPf

We want to provide accurate information and a safe space for students to talk and ask questions. During the next two weeks, Mrs. Nunez and Ms. Rosas will be going into classrooms to share age-appropriate presentations and to facilitate discussions with students. Younger grades will use social stories and pictures to discuss topics like staying healthy, while upper grades will have more complex discussions about things like the origin of viruses and that COVID-19 does not recognize race, nationality, or ethnicity. The grade level presentations are available for parents to view and share with their families here <https://www.smmusd.org/domain/1762>

We hope that by having these discussions with students they will feel more knowledgeable and prepared, and feel comfortable reaching out about their feelings to a family member or a McKinley staff member.

Should you have any questions or concerns related to COVID-19 please don't hesitate to reach out to our school nurse Rachel Bressler rbressler@smmusd.org, School Psych brosas@smmusd.org, School Counselor carlanunez@smmusd.org, or Bilingual Community Liaison e.diaz@smmusd.org for more information.



Dr. Ashley Benjamin
Principal