

Good afternoon 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Families,

First, let it be said that we miss your children immensely. The end of the year is typically the fondest part of the school year on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade team. Our relationships with the students are at their strongest, and we have the pleasure of spending time with them outside of the classroom at Busch Gardens and the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Gala. And then, we get to see them off to high school with our Promotion Ceremony. It is with great sadness that we must sacrifice those events this year and knowing that these incredible students are missing those special moments makes our hearts heavy.

With the uncertainty of these unprecedented times, we have chosen not to hold a postponed Promotion Ceremony. Instead, we aim to create a commencement video the students can preserve as a memory of each other, SLA, and the peculiar year that has been 2020 thus far. This video will be loaded onto a flash drive and sent to each student with their Promotion Certificate. The video will also be made available on YouTube as an Unlisted Video (meaning that only those that have the link, which will be sent out to families, can view it). Moreover, we will be conferring 8<sup>th</sup> Grade awards, with award certificates mailed to students along with their Promotion Certificates.

Our objective is to include each 8<sup>th</sup> grade student. To make this happen, we are asking that your student films a short “bio” video answering the following questions:

- What high school do you plan to attend?
- What are your future aspirations (what do you want to be when you grow up)?
- What will you miss about SLA?

Please send these videos to Mrs. Clinch at [casey.clinch@sarasotacountyschools.net](mailto:casey.clinch@sarasotacountyschools.net) by Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. If you are unable to email the video, please contact Mrs. Clinch, and she will review additional video sharing options. Likewise, if your student is unable to film a video, please contact Mrs. Clinch.

We look forward to receiving your student’s video and putting together a special memento for this 8<sup>th</sup> grade class!

Sincerely,

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Team

Casey Clinch, Nathan Cowan, Krissy Varner, Steve Waite