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Dear Navigator families,

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all of you! I hope you and your family are doing well. I need to inform you that our school is officially closed today until further notice. You may contact any staff member through his or her email account. If you need assistance, please visit our school website to locate the necessary contact information.

Today I had an opportunity to virtually meet with my staff to check in and see how things are going. As you can imagine, we are all praying for all of our families as we continue to navigate this uncharted territory. We know there will be many stumbling blocks along the way.

Here are the top 5 suggestions from the St. Francis Xavier School faculty on how to make this a successful experience:

1. **Baby Steps** - We are all learning how to make this new venue for our students and parents work. Please continue to bear with us as we do our best. Stay connected with your teachers. They are doing the best to respond to your emails in a timely manner.
2. **Google Email** - I am encouraging our families -- especially for our younger students in grades P-4 -- to set up a Google email just for the sake of accessing some of our teacher assignments and videos. The email can be deleted after this has passed.
3. **Deadlines** - We realize that every student works differently. Some like to complete all the reading assignments for the week, others like to take it day by day, some like to do it all at once. We ask that you do the best under these circumstances. We just want our students to be engaged in learning. As far as collecting assignments from our students, please make sure your students put them in a safe location. As time goes on and we

learn more about our restrictions, we will determine how we will handle the collection of any school work. For Grades 5-8, we encourage our students to comment on the Google assignment if they have questions so our teachers can respond.

4. **Be a kid** - Every student needs a chance to be a kid! Yes, we hope you will have many family opportunities to play games, work on puzzles, watch a movie, etc. Let them be children.
5. **Reach out to those you love** - Don't forget to reach out to your loved ones via Facetime or a phone call and check in on them from time to time. Check with your neighbors and please avoid being in a large group together.

Stay tuned for a video from Mrs. Beal soon.

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we navigate this unprecedented situation. We are fortunate to be in a caring community. I have no doubt that we will support each other moving through this pandemic and will return to business as usual before long. We will continue to communicate the latest as they relate to you and your child.

Do not hesitate to contact me directly if you have any questions and/or concerns. I can be reached at dbeal@sfxmedina.org.