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**CORY-RAWSON LOCAL SCHOOL**  
HOME OF THE FIGHTING HORNETS



## CR Elementary Update December 23rd

Christmas break has arrived! It was great to see the holiday cheer in each of the students as we closed out the first half of the school year with both the Green and Gold groups this week. I hope that everyone is able to have a restful, healthy, and fun holiday break and look forward to seeing everyone back on January 4th!

For the Hive,  
Ben Thiel

**Highlights of this update: CRVLA Update, Remote Learning Plan, COVID-19 Communication, Be A H.E.R.R.O. Messages on GENEROSITY, Santa!!!, Time for Review.**



**CORY-RAWSON**  
VIRTUAL LEARNING ACADEMY

Remember that this week, December 21st and 22nd no attendance will be taken. Students are able to enjoy Christmas break with the rest of the students at Cory-Rawson. Any work done during the break will serve to catch students up or help them get ahead. Students will be expected to resume work beginning January 4th-8th.

If you are considering a return to in-person learning please reach out to Mr. Thiel, [thiel@cory-rawson.org](mailto:thiel@cory-rawson.org), by January 15th. Students will be able to return to in-person learning on January 25th to begin the 3rd 9 weeks.



# BE A HERRO



Habits Emotions Reasons Responses Ownership

This Week's Be A HERRO Focus was on GENEROSITY, please read the messages below that are shared daily with students via the announcements.

During this time of year gifts are exchanged between friends and family for various reasons, that's why December's Character trait is giving and service, or generosity. I want to encourage you to use your time and energy thinking about how and what you can give generously to bless someone else. There is no greater gift than seeing the joy on the face of someone who has received a heartfelt gift from someone else. Gifts do not need to be bought either, they can be free things like kind words or an act of kindness. John R. Wooden, the most successful college basketball coach in history once said, "You can't live a perfect day without doing something for someone who will never be able to repay you." Life is about doing good things to and for the people around you, especially those who cannot return the favor. When we help those in need without expecting anything in return we embrace the true meaning of Christmas and show the generosity that can change the world.

Emotions connected to generosity include joy, empathy, excitement, blessing, creativity, and love. We can feel all of these emotions when we choose to be generous and bless the people around us, especially the people we love with our thoughts, words, or actions. Being generous does not mean we need to give gifts. There is a thing called "Emotional Generosity" which means we show empathy toward others by choosing to feel what other people are going through so we can relate to them and understand them better. Often we see someone doing something bad or simply having a bad day and we think, "What's wrong with them?" instead let's start by thinking, "I wonder what happened to them?" When we begin our thoughts this way it changes the way we see and interact with each other and helps us get to solving the problem much faster. The other side of Emotional Generosity means you know when to ask someone else for help. You are not alone, especially during your trials and challenges. Do not be afraid to ask for help when you need it because there are plenty of people who would love to help you. Please practice emotional generosity today by pressing pause, getting your mind right, and stepping up to understand the other person's needs first. An amazing thing will happen when we do!

Generosity has been our focus this week because we are nearing the holiday season when gifts are exchanged to show our love and appreciation for one another. Today I want you to think about the reason, or the why, and the response, or the how and what, behind generosity. The reason why we are generous is to show our gratitude, appreciation, and love for someone through a kind gift, word, or deed. For many of you the ability to buy a gift is not possible so focus on what you can do for a loved one

this season to be generous. Volunteer to clean a room for a brother or sister, wash the dishes or do a chore for your parents, or simply be on your best behavior for your teacher's here at school! Doing kind and generous acts like these can be received greater than any gift that will be given, eaten, or forgotten later. When responding to generosity you have a few options. Number one, be thankful. No matter how big, small, important, or minor the gift be thankful because often times that gift is the most the person could give. It may not have been what you wanted, asked for, or expected but no one likes an ungrateful response to a gift that was sincere. Remember that a small gift to you is the biggest gift someone else could give. Second, think about how you can return the generosity in some way to the person who was generous to you or better yet, who can you pay it forward to. Generosity should be a spark that lights a flame in us to show kindness, appreciation, and love to the people around us. I have seen this generosity in you already this year through the notes, gifts, and hugs that I have received from many of you. Each note and hug I receive makes me feel better and I need it this week, so thank you to all of the generosity you have shown me this week and this year, you are my HERO's.

I do not want to get super complicated today, so we will keep it simple. You are either generous or you are not, OWN IT! No one else can be generous for you so you cannot BCD anyone or anything about your lack of generosity physically or emotionally. Most of us BCD our situation, I don't have enough money, I don't know what to get them, I don't know what to say. None of that matters, just be kind, loving, and show your appreciation however you can. The opposite of generosity is selfishness. Being selfish is our impulsive and default mode of operation because it is a survival tactic. It makes more sense to our instincts to do what is best for me, which often leads us to make selfish, self-serving decisions. However, the truth is that the best most self-serving decision we can make is to be generous to others. As we have talked about the past few weeks being generous to others creates a response in them to be generous as well, to us and to others. Simply put, being generous towards others will actually help us to be more successful because people will find ways to be generous themselves and eventually that generosity may find its way back to you. We can all use a little help navigating through life, get that help by taking ownership of your decision to be generous to those around you.



A not so convincing Santa made an appearance this week in classrooms across Cory-Rawson Elementary. While he didn't smell like beef and cheese or sit on a throne of lies, he certainly was a fake, haha! Mrs. Swary and Mr. T did their best to bring some holiday cheer to each class by dressing up like Santa and an Elf to read a Christmas story and give each student a Christmas treat. We hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



### Elementary Principal Newsletters

Don't forget that all Elementary Principal Newsletters can be found [HERE](#) on the Cory-Rawson Local School's website. If you find yourself in need of information but do not have access to the link please remember that you may find my page by visiting the school's website then choosing the following tabs SCHOOLS>K-6 BUILDING>BEN THIEL PRINCIPAL which will lead you to the link provided above.

### Class Lists

[Click Here](#) to view all UPDATED class lists and Hybrid groups that have been posted to the Elementary Principal Homepage on the Cory-Rawson Local Schools Website!

### Masks

All students grades K-12 will be required to wear facial coverings upon the return to school. Cory-Rawson will not be supplying all students with a facial covering unless a covering. Some of the highlights of this order are listed below:

#### *Requirements*

- When students are in any indoor location.
- When students are outside, on school property, but unable to maintain physical distance of 6 feet consistently, including waiting for a school bus to arrive.
- Riding a school bus.
- Facial coverings may be made of **any material** and are required to cover a student's **nose, mouth, and chin.**

#### *Exemptions*

- Individuals with medical conditions including respiratory conditions that restrict breathing, mental health conditions, or a disability that contraindicates the wearing of a facial covering.
- Individuals are actively participating in outdoor recess and/or physical activity where students can maintain a physical distance of 6 feet or more.
- Individuals who are **seated** and **actively consuming** food or beverage.
- Any time students are able to maintain a distance of **six feet or more** and a mask break is deemed necessary by the educator supervising the educational setting.

[Click Here](#) to view the full Ohio Department of Health's Director's Order Requiring the use of Facial Coverings in Child Educational Settings from August 13th.

Don't forget to wash masks periodically.

### Devices

While we wait on new devices to arrive, we are working to distribute the older devices to students to use. These devices are not in the best shape, which is why new devices were ordered, but for the most part they will serve to get us through. Please let us know if there are major issues that your experience with the device your student brings home.

1st grade students are still on the list to receive devices. I am currently working from 4th grade on down to distribute devices, chargers, and carrying cases. Once all 4th grade, 3rd grade, and 2nd grade have sufficient devices I will begin working on 1st grade students.

Families may also request WiFi hotspots from the school in order to help boost their internet capacity at home.

If you have any questions about devices please contact [Mr. Thiel](#).

### Cory-Rawson Virtual Learning Academy (CRVLA)

If you signed your student up for CRVLA you should have received an email from me last Wednesday September 2nd with log-in information specific to your student as well as links to the CR VLA homepage and tutorial videos from Jefferson County ESC. Any student grades K-12 should contact Mr. Thiel with questions regarding CR VLA. The recording of Friday's Zoom meeting is included below, please take time to view that video to learn some important tips to get started using the CR VLA platform.

[CR VLA Homepage](#)

[VLA Tutorial Videos from JCESC](#)

[Click Here](#) to send Mr. Thiel a message specifically regarding questions about CR VLA.



BCD: This is an acronym that we use at Cory-Rawson Elementary to remind ourselves not to Blame, Complain, or Defend our circumstances. Join us as we continue to stop the spread of BCD this year when there are so many issues and excuses to BCD about. For more explanation please see the video linked below.

[Two Minutes with TK #9: No BCD](#)



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