Dear Athenian Parents,

Snow was visible on Mount Diablo this morning, though we couldn't see it from campus. It was only from miles away that we were able to view the beauty in our midst.

So it has been with our quick shift to distance learning. This process has shown us the grit and dedication of our faculty and administrators, and the energy, flexibility and compassion of our students and their families. All have had to make sacrifices to make this work. And it has.

Given the recent shelter-in-place orders in Contra Costa and several neighboring counties, we are grateful to have been able to move swiftly on the front of distance learning. Teachers have been working around the clock since last week to be ready for class today, and the results have been overwhelmingly positive. Classes are going smoothly so far, and students and faculty have been quick to identify and remedy points of difficulty with this new format.

We are suspending the Weekly for the near term, and will be sending updates via Flashes from the school administration, emails from division heads, and social media posts. If you are not currently following Athenian on Facebook and Instagram, please consider doing so during the coming weeks as we try to stay connected as a community.

Here is a link to a video we posted on social media yesterday.

Thank you so much for your patience and resilience during this difficult time. This journey is just beginning, and we look forward to learning with you.

With gratitude,

Eric F. Niles

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