



3.7.2022

Dear Four Mile Families,

I wanted to update you on what we are doing at Four Mile today. We want to adequately support and show love to your students in this challenging time for our community.

- Staff convened at 10am this morning to prepare for the days ahead.
- All teachers held class meetings this morning with the children so they could talk, listen, show empathy to classmates, and ask questions. All questions and feelings are validated and accepted.
- Elementary counselors from other Southeast Polk elementary schools have stationed here at Four Mile today. They are here to provide counseling services and support for students. They are also covering multiple recess and lunch duties for the teaching staff so teachers can be available for students.
- Mrs. Parrie has been working closely with our SEP At-Risk Coordinator, Amy Anderson, to compile a list of available resources for teachers so they can best support their students with grief, coping, understanding, and regulating emotions.
- As a building, we are compiling a list of families who have damage to their homes and property. If you are one of those families, please email sara.parrie@southeastpolk.org so your family's name can be added to the list.
- We have PT Conferences on Tuesday (in person) and Thursday (virtual). If this past weekend's events have caused a need to reschedule, please notify your child's teacher or sharon.messer@southeastpolk.org.
- Joe Beckman, author of *Just Look Up*, has reached out to Four Mile via text and a video message. As you all know, Mr. Beckman led an assembly at Four Mile in January and we have been working on his principles of "being a good human" throughout the school year. This video will pull at your heart strings.

Please reach out to me at tamera.steenhoek@southeastpolk.org if you need help. We will provide the assistance or we will find someone who can do it. You are not alone. You have a community of neighbors, staff members, and district personnel who want to help.

Four Mile is strong. Together, we'll help one another to rebuild and move forward.

Much love sent to all of you.

Tammy Steenhoek

Four Mile Principal