Dear Magnet Senior,

March 31, 2020

As someone who still remembers nearly every detail of my senior year 28 years ago (insert joke here I’m sure), I can’t imagine how you are feeling in this bizarre spring semester. This once-in-a-century viral situation couldn’t come at a worse time for the plans you’ve been making to finish your last year of high school. I truly empathize with you and how you’re undoubtedly and rightfully feeling.

HOWEVER, I’m not one to dwell on things over which I have no control. As a coach, group travel leader, teacher, and now magnet coordinator I’m constantly tasked with finding the BEST solution to less-than-stellar situations. I can’t force people to stay home or quicken the death of the virus by making more masks or developing a vaccine tomorrow. I can, though, help us find ways to celebrate and commemorate this coronavirus senior year. As you read the things we are starting with below, please keep in mind that I will support any of your unique ideas that you have that are possible! There is no need to counter-productively dwell on this regrettable situation all the time!

First, I pronounce APRIL (starting tomorrow), Magnet Senior month on our Instagram account. Let’s look to the future to get excited about what’s to come, not what we’re having to do in this moment! I need everyone to send me the college to which they are committed to attend. Please take a picture with ANYTHING from that college and YOU and send it to me with your Instagram account name. It can be a pennant, a printed off logo, wearing a piece of clothing, holding a whiteboard with the name handwritten, picture of the college name spelled out in pennies…it doesn’t matter! Just you and the name of YOUR COLLEGE!

Second, we’re full speed ahead on creating a senior shirt! I need a 2-color design logo/slogan (shirt color would be third) for the front. You don’t have to be artistic; it can just be a clever phrase! Creative possibilities in the age of your coronavirus-impacted senior year are ENDLESS! Please send your suggestion by Sunday night. We’ll vote on them next week through a 365Form. ALSO, I need everyone to send me your name (as you are known, not your legal full name...unless you want to) in the FONT you want for the back of the shirt. While it can be a nickname, it should be a name you can be identified with by MOST seniors.

Three, please send me the following pictures via email (james.auld@cobbk12.org) for something we’re developing: your cutest/most embarrassing photo from ages 0-5 (before school!); an awkward middle school-age photo; and the photo that most encompasses your high school career.

Four, I’m partnering with the Magnet Foundation to give your class the MOST MONEY in foundation scholarships that we have EVER given! Anyone who has paid their $50 dues to the foundation this year is eligible to win one of THREE $1000 scholarships!!! The application is nearly complete, but keep in mind you can’t apply unless you are a member. Membership will also give you the Class of ’20 Magnet Senior shirt I discussed earlier FOR FREE! So, please go to the magnet foundation website (https://www.ncisfoundation.org/) and click on the “Donate” yellow PayPal link to the bottom-right of the screen. Currently your odds on winning a $1000 scholarship are...1 in 11. Even if/when all 100 magnet seniors join and/or apply, you’ll have the best odds EVER of winning one of THREE $1000 scholarships!

In closing, we don’t know what the rest of the semester has in store. We do know that we control what we do now and going forward. I think we can and should make the best of this digital world in which we find ourselves. The possibilities are nearly endless...and way more fun than wallowing!

Sincerely,
Coach Auld