

AKINS FALL UPDATE 2020

MUMC FAMILY,

The following blurb is from Miss Scarmardo, the social worker who is our liaison at Akins High School:

"School is officially back in session at Akins ECHS (Early College High School) after what some of our staff has jokingly dubbed, 'the longest spring break ever.' As with many things in our world right now, we are seeing an increase in our student's needs related to a variety of issues including financial strife, grief & loss, homelessness, mental health issues, technology accessibility, and more. We are so grateful for the partnership we have with the community at MUMC as your support has been so crucial to helping our student's needs for the past 5 years. Now more than ever, our students will be needing assistance with new and gently used clothing (particularly leggings, basketball shorts, and athleisure,) new male & female undergarments, snacks, non-perishable food, haircut gift certificates, hygiene items, and more depending on the varying individual needs."

With the help of generous donors, the food pantry and WOW, the MUMC Mission team has addressed some of these needs. I delivered lots of snacks, 10 food bags and some clothing items so that Miss Scarmardo will have them for students who come on campus or students she visits. We also put together 24 personal hygiene gift bags from the toiletries donated and bagged up by WOW. We added masks, hand sanitizer, some fun snacks so the bags include toothpaste, tooth brushes, floss, deodorant, shampoos, conditioner, lotions, washcloths and a little encouraging note. Gift cards for haircuts will also be available to students. Thanks to all who helped and donated toiletries and clothing! *(Pictures of your generosity are on the next page!)*

Unfortunately, the 2021 college trip is most likely not going to happen this February. Even if the Covid-19 situation is much better, we spend a lot of time in the fall preparing for the trip with the students and colleges which is not possible now. We will continue to think of ways to encourage college education and may have colleges visit Akins campus in the spring.

We will do our best to help meet the student's needs during this crazy time. Your donations of clothing, toiletries, and of course monetary support are welcome as always! For check donations, please add Akins HS to the memo line so it ends up in the correct account! Thanks and stay safe!!

You can contact Sandee Setterquist at sa.setterquist@gmail.com for more information.

