**Passion Project Background Information**

Dear Families,

As we embark on an undetermined period of “distance learning,” we have introduced a project in the event that we do not return to school on April 6, as is currently planned.

The “Passion Project” is just that: an opportunity for each student to increase their knowledge or expertise about a particular topic of interest to them. It is intended to be our “upgrade” of the 3-D Word Wall Projects of our past (which we left behind for Primary to continue). We hope to have students pursue a Passion Project each year that they are in Middle Department.

As with the 3-D Word Wall Projects, we would like for families to learn and work together. Your child will need your support and participation in learning how to define their topic, learn about it, and create a means of sharing their learning.

Does your child love to skateboard? What could they learn about skateboarding? Perhaps they could investigate the history of the development of skateboards, skateboard designs, skateboard parks, and/or the physics of skateboarding. To share their research, they might create a poster that presents that history and the different types of skateboards over time, a sketch of a dream skateboard park, a diagram of the mechanics of jumping, a word matrix for “trajectory,” or some other word associated with skateboarding.

Perhaps your child is obsessed with Harry Potter or A Series of Unfortunate Events. What could they learn about the author’s life and how they became a writer? Might your child write to the author to learn about how they developed their ideas for the series? What could your child learn about the process of writing and publishing a book? Perhaps they could build a word matrix around “wizardry” or “unfortunate.”

**An important caveat about the “due date”: THERE ISN’T ONE. Really, we would like students to share their work when they are ready and to complete their project in time to display it at Open House (if, in fact, there is one).**

We hope you will nurture your child’s enthusiasm for this project!