September 7, 2018

Students and Families:

I will have back surgery on September 10 and will be out for three to four weeks after. I am very sorry to be leaving during the year, I feel like I am just getting to know our students! I’m also very sorry to be interrupting your student’s development in History class.

Fortunately, Ms. Norton, a graduate student and Aspiring Teacher from Vanderbilt University, will be taking over lesson planning and teaching while I’m out. She has already been working in your student’s classrooms and has planned with me to makes sure class continues as smoothly as possible. There will also be a long term substitute in the room to deal with discipline issues, and of course the rest of the team will be working with my replacements.

I will be in communication with the team after next week. Grades will continue to be put in for the rest of the nine weeks.

Please feel free to email myself ([joel.covington@mnps.org](mailto:joel.covington@mnps.org)), Ms. Seamon ([Elizabeth.seamon@mnps.org](mailto:Elizabeth.seamon@mnps.org)), or Ms. Taylor ([Noelle.taylor@mnps.org](mailto:Noelle.taylor@mnps.org)) with questions or concerns as the next few weeks pass. I look forward to returning to class at 100% to continue to serve your students and families.

Thank you,

Joel Covington