

March 21, 2020

Hello awesome parents and all my amazing Engineering and R&D students!!! My thoughts are with you all during these difficult times, and I am sending best wishes to you and your families. During this time off I hope you are getting some much-needed rest and you have a chance to reflect on your future endeavors.

I just want you all to know that I care about you very much and I miss all the laughs and hard work you do on a daily basis. All this craziness will pass and hopefully one day we can look back and be stronger personally. If you every need anything, please don't hesitate to contact me. I want you all to know I am always here for you.

During this time away from school I encourage all ***Design Technology*** students to continue with some type of enrichment or supplemental learning opportunities. Below you will find several helpful links or ideas to continue your growth in engineering and design education.

1. A good place to start is to visit our Design Technology website: www.dakotadesigntech.com for any and all updated resource materials. All this information will be located at the top of the front page. You may also want to look around the site as you might see yourself working on some cool projects from the past. ***(Note: site will be updated weekly)***
2. Another great place to start if you have not already done so is to download AutoCAD and Inventor 2019 from the AutoDesk Education Community here: <https://www.autodesk.com/education/home> This is a wonderful opportunity for all of you to master your skills and work on your proficiency with both software's. This software is 100% free to all students and you may also download other programs of interest. Remember we use AutoCAD and Inventor 2019 so you will want to download that version. Just follow the instructions from AutoDesk and in no time you will be up and running. I recommend that you try and learn at least four (4) different commands per day and master them in a drawing. The more commands you know the more employable you become to a potential employer.
3. If you are a **Senior** this is a good time to apply for college scholarships. My recommendation is to apply for at least two (2) scholarships per week as there are millions of dollars readily available for amazing student like yourselves. Take a little time and you will be amazed by how much money you and your parents can save.

4. Another idea for all students is to start building your Resume for the future. MicroSoft Word has great templates to start with, but if you want to be different and stand out, do some research online and you will see what the pros recommend. Once again it takes a little time and effort, but it will be worth it in the end when you land that perfect job one day. There are millions of examples and websites for resume writing but here is one for you to look at:
<https://resumegenius.com/blog/resume-help/how-to-write-a-resume>

5. Finally check out some of these wonderful engineering sites to keep current on the latest trends, livestream tours, videos, activities and games to enhance your level of skill in the field. Try to build some of these simple projects and if you do send me a few pictures and I will upload them to the website.....Be Creative!!!
 - a. <https://tryengineering.org/students/>
 - b. <https://tryengineering.org/students/games/>
 - c. <http://trynanotechnology.org/play-games>
 - d. <https://www.petersen.org/online-education>
 - e. <https://www.instructables.com/id/Project-Based-Engineering-for-Kids/>
 - f. <https://science.howstuffworks.com/>

Final Thought:

The key to success in the field of engineering is to first have fun and explore the unknown. We can always learn from one another, be kind, be truthful and always remember I truly care deeply about you and your potential to succeed. Take care of yourself and your family.

Best Wishes,

Mr. Mitchell