

Hello Matthew, Saharsh, Saniya, Jasmine, and parents,

Now that Thanksgiving is past it is time to get truly started learning the Rocks and Minerals on your list for the competition in March. But first, two important items that involve logistics:

1) I have heard from Matthew and Saharsh and their personal (non-school) e-mail addresses are included on this distribution list. But I have not heard from Saniya or Jasmine. If parents on the distribution list can make sure the students are receiving this note, and then provide me the best non-school e-mail for contact, then we can truly get started. *I cannot reach students via their school e-mail addresses.*

2) I'd like to see if we can schedule a regular one-hour, weekly online Zoom-style meeting. I'm not as versed as most of you on online meeting processes, but Matthew's mom (Sonia) has agreed to set up meetings for us. BUT first, we need to compare schedules. Mine is simple. I am flexible and can pretty much accommodate any time after school between 3 and 7 PM on any day of the week. **SO, I will ask each of you to send me weekdays and times that you are NOT available and we can see if something works for all of us.**

I hope we can change this from online sessions to in-person sessions at my home just off East Avenue near Nazareth College sometime in January. I have examples of almost all the minerals and rocks you need to know and it is much easier to compare, contrast, and learn them by seeing and handling them. Not to mention, more fun also.

Each week or so, I will add something to my webpage and send a note of explanation. For several weeks this will include note pages introducing the minerals and later rocks on your list. These pages do not contain all the information, but they do provide a template for you to collect information on each mineral/rock. I can explain this best when we first "meet" on Zoom, but for now, I have posted a 3-page file introducing the six native element minerals on your list with some blank space to fill in properties and other info.

LINK: <http://fredmhaynes.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/1.-Native-Elements.pdf>

You are able to build a single 3-ring binder with information to take to the event. I suggest these pages I provide, supplemented by notes you add to them, will be useful for that binder. I suggest you print them out and take notes on them. The mineral pictures are in color, which obviously does help, but if you can only print in black and white, that is fine also.

Finally, the files I linked in the first note are all still online, accessible from this link: <http://fredmhaynes.com/wp-admin/post.php?post=1593&action=edit>

Don't hesitate to contact me via e-mail or by phone (585-203-1733) with questions. All I ask is that phone contact is before 9:00 PM, but any other time, 7 days a week is fine.

Fred Haynes

Calkins Road MS Sci. Oly. Rocks and Minerals Coach
<http://fredmhaynes.com/about/>