HUNTINGDON AREA HIGH SCHOOL

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Mr. Travis R. Lee, Secondary Principal Mr. Brent A. Stoltzfus, Assistant Principal

"ALL LEARNERS, ALL FUTURES"

To: Learners, Parents, and Guardians **From:** Mr. Travis Lee, High School Principal

Re: HAHS Coronavirus Update

Date: April 9, 2020

Greetings!

We hope that the first five days of remote learning, through Flexible Instructional Days (FID), have gone well for you! Listed below are updates and reminders that pertain specifically to Huntingdon Area High School. We want to keep you informed, but not inundated and overwhelmed with information. I hope that by briefly highlighting some key points below, our learners and families will be updated with the most current information. As we move forward, and develop our routine, we do not anticipate that we will need to continue with this frequency and level of communication, but will always ensure that you get all needed information.

Over the past week, we have experienced many positive things happening, and have enjoyed seeing learners engaged in their classes. It has been great to interact with learners through videoconferencing! Our learners, teachers, and staff have really stepped up, and we should be proud of this accomplishment that has enabled us to continue providing meaningful learning opportunities. We hope that our learners and families remain safe and healthy, and know that we are here to support you!

Attendance

- Learners must complete the attendance form on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays during scheduled Flexible Instructional Days (FID), which will continue while the school is closed
- Complete the Attendance form by going to this link: <u>Attendance Form Link</u> or by visiting
 the school district website, under the "Quick Links." This link will also be provided to
 learners in their Grade Level classrooms.
- The form will be open to be completed between 7:30 am 3:00 pm
- If you cannot login to complete the form, please keep a log of the activities completed for the day. There is no need to send an excuse. Learners should communicate with teachers, though.

Assignments and Grades

- Learners are expected to review content and complete assignments facilitated by their teachers.
- Teachers will be flexible to help learners access and complete assignments, and problem-solve/adapt as needed.
- The current focus is to complete assignments for Marking Period 3. You will be updated about any updated future plans, and teachers will continue to communicate about their assignments with learners. It is imperative that learners stay up to date with their assignments, as this continues to be part of their grade and progress for the year.
- Last Day of MP3: April 7, 2020. Assignments completed and turned in to teachers by April 10, 2020. Report Cards to be issued via Skyward on Thursday, April 16, 2020.

Live Instructional Days vs. Instructional Days

- <u>Live Instructional Day</u>: Teachers provide videos, Zoom/Google Hangout sessions, and more direct interaction with learners between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm
 - Mondays and Thursdays (MS/HS); Tuesdays and Fridays (Elem.)
 - Period Schedule for sessions at the Middle School and High School Level
- **Instructional Day**: Learners continue to work on assignments and may contact teachers between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm with questions.
 - Tuesdays and Fridays (MS/HS)
- Wednesdays are <u>Planning/Act 80 Days</u> for teaching staff. Learners may continue to work on assignments during these days, but they do not need to record their attendance

Video Conferencing (Zoom) Expectations

- Learners should attempt to attend all live sessions, but we understand that this will not be possible for all. Try your best, and learners should communicate with teachers if they cannot attend. It is important that learners keep up with, and complete, their assignments.
- Sessions are scheduled by period for 25 minutes. Not all sessions will need the full 25 minutes.
- Teachers have shared their video conferencing/Zoom expectations with learners. The following web link from Common Sense Media can be helpful to for both parents and learners to review some common expectations: <u>How to Get Kids Ready to Video-Chat</u> for Online Classes
- Learners should be reminded about proper Digital Citizenship expectations.
 Inappropriate behaviors will continue to be addressed from a disciplinary standpoint.

Adapting and Problem-Solving

 Learners, families, and teachers will certainly need to utilize the 4Cs: Communication, Collaborative, Creativity, and Critical Thinking/Problem-Solving to teach and learn together during remote, virtual learning. Although we are facing unfortunate circumstances, we hope that, in the end, this unique experience will help us all to further

- develop these skills that are necessary to be successful across multiple careers and settings.
- Learners and families are encouraged to reach out to teachers with specific class related questions (please see below for additional communication information).
- If learners experience difficulty with the internet, retrieving information and then working offline can be helpful. This document can be helpful in this regard: <u>Work on Google</u> <u>Docs, Sheets, & Slides offline</u>
- Tutoring support is still available to learners. Please contact Ms. Silva at <u>ssilva@huntsd.org</u> if you need help with assignments and completing information. Ms. Silva will be continuing to support the learners that she had previously been working with.

Technology Resources

- <u>Parent Internet Essentials Service</u> is a document shared by Dr. Rieffannacht in regards to available internet services and how to access district wifi services via school parking lots
- Learners may utilize the HASD HelpDesk if they encounter technical difficulties.
 - Learners must use their HASD email to utilize the HelpDesk
 - Here is a helpful link about the process: <u>HelpDesk Information</u>
- Google Classroom is not new to HAHS, and many learners are adept at its use. With the increased use of Classroom for remote learning, this link provides helpful information: Common Sense Media: Parents' Ultimate Guide to Google Classroom

Communication

- We want to help learners resolve any school issue that they may encounter
- Please refer to the <u>HS Teacher and Staff Email/Phone Extension List</u> document for specific teacher and school contacts. Learners should contact their teachers for class related questions. Email communication is best, though voice messages can be left by calling (814)643-1080, and using the correct extensions
- In addition, please note the following key points of contact:
 - Attendance Questions: Mrs. Deb Stitt
 - o Password Questions: Mrs. Maureen Colton
- Please recognition that some issues may take 24-48 hours to resolve, though we will keep you updated as necessary

HCCTC

- HCCTC began instruction on Monday, April 6, 2020
- Learners should be checking their HCCTC email for messages and information from their instructors. You can also visit their website at hcctc.org

Dual-Enrollment, AP, and Online Courses

 Learners in these classes receive updates from their teachers and additional information is provided in Grade Level Google Classrooms

- Since HAHS is continuing with planned instruction, learners are expected to be receiving credit from our partnering dual-enrollment institutions, according to their continued progress in the courses
- A separate update for learners in AP classes will be coming in the near future. The AP
 exams have been rescheduled, and will be taken remotely at home.

Many Thank Yous!

- Many have come together throughout this coronavirus pandemic and school closure, and thank yous are in order
- Thank you, families, for working with your learners to provide a learning environment within your home!
- Thank you, learners, for your persistence with your work!
- Thank you staff for your tremendous efforts in planning, instructional delivery, and diligence in following up with learners!
- Thank you to those that have helped to ensure that our learners get the meals that are needed!
- Thank you to all within our greater community that's working to keep Huntingdon safe and healthy!

Please be proud of our entire school community for the teamwork that has been exhibited. Hang in there, and we will get through this challenging time together! **Be proud to be a Bearcat!**