

From the Director's Desk 3/15/20 6:08 PM

COVID-19 Updates

Dear Cornerstone Cardinal Community,

First, let me apologize in advance for the length of this email (consider it a substitute for Sunday Notes!), but there is a lot that is happening quickly. I want to make sure that you receive as much of it as possible in one format. Second, let me thank everyone for their kindness, support, and assistance as we work through this. After 20 years of this or so, I guess I can still say that there things I have never seen before!

As we shared yesterday, school will be closed as an instructional setting for the next two weeks. Sometime during the next two weeks either the state or our local Board of Directors will make a decision on the next steps (return to school, continue to remain closed, or some other variation). As of this writing, the spring break change in our calendar remains in place. That move is intricately connected to the extended number of days that we are closed, the lack of a current plan for makeup days, and the myriad additional events that may be impacted by an extended leave from school. The reasons for the move require a more indepth response than is appropriate in this email, but it will be forthcoming in next few days.

As for the plan moving forward, I am going to bullet point as many specific items as I can for the sake of clarity. It is very important that you read through each item.

- School will be closed to students from 3/16/2020 - 3/29/20. As of right now, students are scheduled to return on 3/30/20. We will determine if that is going to happen as events unfold.
- Teachers are preparing a work packet for students for each course that they are taking. This work packet is two weeks worth of work.
- This work will be focused on taking the opportunity afforded to us to review previously taught skills and/or content. In the event that the closing of school becomes an extended period, then we may change that approach.
- Teachers will have regularly scheduled "office hours" where you will have two ways to contact teachers in the event that you or your student needs assistance. They can be reached via their regular email or with Google Voice phone numbers, which will be posted on our website tomorrow. We will release the scheduled office hours tomorrow after I meet with teachers.
- As of right now, our rescheduled spring break remains 3/23-3/27. During that time, teachers will not hold their regular "office hours". School will be closed as it is each spring break.
- You may be wondering why two weeks of work if one of the weeks will be spring break. Because of the uncertainty regarding the return to school date, and the accessibility of our facilities, we believe it will be best if we provide an extended

amount of work for students. Remember, this work is designed to review skills and/or content that has been already received.

- These work packets will be emailed by your student's teacher between 12:00 and 4:00 tomorrow. The time may vary depending on when the administrative team has an opportunity to meet with the grade level and content areas.
- The only exception to this is for students enrolled in Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Because The College Board has not altered the AP exam schedule at this time, it is our judgement that students cannot afford the lost time in acquiring new skills and content. Therefore there are some specific directions that AP students must be sure they receive from their teachers.

Important - For families that may not be able to access student work via email, we will have two times available for in person pick up at school.

It is during these times that students may access the building to gather any personal belongings they may need

Monday Night - 4:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday Morning - 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Finally, there are multiple other items that need to be addressed, including the possibility of exposure to COVID-19 and how we will handle it as a school, field trip planning, end of the year planning, spring sports, etc... however, we are either still in planning phases with those items, or we have not received enough guidance to weigh in yet. There will be plenty more communication in the coming days.

Once again, thank you all for your patience, support, and well wishes as we work through these very strange set of events.

Sincerely,

Joe Caraher

Director