



DELBARTON SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Students,

Below are updates from **Mr. Josh Hartle**, Assistant Headmaster for Academic Affairs, **Dr. Matt D'Urso**, Dean of Guidance, and **Dr. David Hajduk**, Director of Mission and Ministry.

Academics

Student Expectations During School Closure:

- **Assignments:** Beginning **Monday, March 16, 2020**, teachers will send an initial communication via **Schoology** to their classes including daily expectations, a schedule of course work, and teacher "office hours." Each school day teachers will provide an "assignment" which might be a short video or screencast, instructions for contributing to a discussion board, reading, problem set, Google form responses, etc. Each day's work will be posted by 9:00 am.
- **"Office hours:"** Each day (Monday-Friday), all teachers should maintain a minimum of two hours between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm during which students may contact them and expect to have near immediate access. This could mean responding to emails ASAP, using Google Meet (a video conferencing app) for face to face interaction (or at least talking), Schoology Conference function, etc. Mr. Flynn will post a quick "how to" video for Google Meet. Check it out!
- **Synchronous Learning:** Teachers may request students to be present for a true synchronous learning experience, such as a whole class discussion, debate, etc. These can occur at the times below on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Setting up this "schedule" is a way to keep students from being pulled in multiple directions at the same time. We are sensitive to the varying circumstances of the students. If students cannot make this time, they must communicate their absence in advance with their teacher.
 - Synchronous learning may only occur in the below time frames on **Monday-Wednesday-Friday:**
 - **9:00a - 9:45a: Math**
 - **10:00a - 10:45a: History**
 - **11:00a - 11:45a: English**
 - **12:15p - 1:00p: Language**
 - **1:15p - 2:00p: Science**
 - **2:15p - 3:00p: Theology**
- **Tests/quizzes:** If you have a test or quiz during the school closure, it must be on a Tuesday or Thursday consistent with the department schedule below. Students are reminded to uphold the Delbarton School Honor Code.
 - **Thursday 3/19/2020: Math and History**
 - **Tuesday 3/24/2020: English and Language**
 - **Thursday 3/26/2020: Science and Theology**



DELBARTON SCHOOL

Guidance

The Guidance Department will be available to students and parents by email **8:00 am to noon and 1:00 to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday** during the school closure. You may also contact the counselors via their office phone or Dr. D'Urso via his work cell (973) 224-5983. Any voice message you leave will be returned within 24 hours.

Guidance counselors may be in touch with individual students in order to facilitate organization of academic work, identify barriers to learning or completion of work, and offer support as needed. Teachers have been asked to report to Guidance those students who fail to meet academic responsibilities and school expectations so that the counselors may provide appropriate interventions.

With respect to next year's courses, decisions on requests for Advanced Placement (AP) courses have been made at the department level. The Guidance Department is currently in a review period during which grade level counselors, in conjunction with Dr. D'Urso, evaluate individual student course loads and decide if changes are necessary. Course placement is not finalized until Guidance makes that determination.

For parents of sophomores: The Sophomore Parent College Guidance program has been cancelled. In lieu of the program, the Guidance Department will distribute via email relevant information from the 10th and 11th grade counselors and the Office of College Counseling.

Mission and Ministry

1. All service programs are **cancelled**. This includes the 4/4 Solidarity Sleepout, which Covenant House cancelled. We will remain in conversation with our service partners and resume regular programs after we return to school as prudence permits.
2. **All retreats have been cancelled**. This includes the **3/18 Senior Day of Recollection** and the **3/24-27 KAIROS** retreat. Due to the challenge of rescheduling and the impact school cancellations will have on class time, these will not be rescheduled.
3. **"Come and See" Parent Night (3/19) will be postponed**. A new date will be advertised soon.

More information regarding the status of the Blood Drive (4/2) and the trip to the Fr. English Center (4/15) to unload the items collected from our Lenten Food Drive, will be provided as we approach those events and the situation continues to unfold.