

March 26, 2020

Dear CHS Families,

I hope that this email finds you and your loved ones well. We miss seeing your children on a daily basis! Please see the letter from Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Kelly Lazzara, attached to this email. Per Governor Northam's Executive Order Fifty-Three, all K-12 school buildings will remain closed through the end of the school year. Below are several important points for Catholic High School.

CHS Digital Learning Days will continue through the end of the school year, following the 2019-2020 academic calendar as scheduled. Spring break and Memorial Day are still holidays. Digital Learning Days (DLD) provide a continuity of learning in all classes. Through both synchronous and asynchronous learning, CHS students engage in meaningful interactions with their teacher, the content, and one another. Faculty are introducing new material, and students are earning grades for their completed work. We will continue to communicate with you about academics as the quarter progresses.

Our versatile and resourceful faculty have successfully transitioned to remote, online learning in rapid time. Additional professional development time will further support faculty in making adjustments to the instructional format. The Diocese has given all Catholic schools permission to add five additional PD days of their choosing to aid teachers in the process. We will communicate the new designated PD days as soon as possible. Students will not attend classes on these days.

There are a few changes related to assessments to share with you. The annual Assessment of Children/Youth Religious Education (ACRE) will not be administered this year in theology classes. The College Board has announced notable changes to the AP Testing Program, normally administered the first two weeks in May. Students enrolled in AP classes and their parents should carefully review the information on the [AP Central Website](#). Information about AP testing dates will be released on April 3, and this year only, AP exams will be optional. We will provide more information about how CHS will handle AP tests after the April 3 announcement. CHS AP teachers report that their classes are all on course for the upcoming AP exams!

The spring sports season and all school-related activities are canceled for the duration of the school year. The TCIS statement is attached to this email. We are keeping our seniors in mind as we explore alternative approaches to honoring and recognizing them and their graduation from Catholic High School. The Class of 2020 is a special group of young men and women and we are proud of all they have accomplished while at CHS!

CHS staff continue to work tirelessly behind the scenes, conferring daily. Please check out our new designated [CHS Covid-19 web page](#), offering valuable resources and recent communications in one place. A new message from Father Anthony was recently posted there. Campus Minister, Cate Harmeyer, offers faith-based resources, including daily prayer for students through the @CRUMinistry Instagram account and twice-weekly Bible Study through Google Meets. Links to Live-Streamed Masses across the country are linked through our COVID-19 resources on our website. Our CRU is committed to creating, strengthening, and supporting relationships in our communities and families during this time. Theology teachers and the Campus Minister, have made adjustments to the En Christe requirements for this year; this will be shared with students in Theology classes this week. Our hope is that we can turn our current obstacles into opportunities to spread faith, hope, and charity. Please do not hesitate to contact our Campus Minister, Mrs. Cate Harmeyer (harmeyerc@chsvb.org) with any questions or concerns.

For those students who left items essential to their current classwork in the building, we are working on a plan to address that. More information is forthcoming about timed, scheduled appointments to pick up essential items from the school building.

Thank you for your cooperation, understanding, and support as we work together to continue the process of learning through the end of the school year. Completing the academic semester, preparing for AP tests, and staying connected are all possible through remote learning and CHS Digital Learning Days. We will continue to communicate with you in the coming days, answering your questions and providing updates in a timely manner.

You and your family are in my prayers today and every day.

Blessings,

Peggy Boon

CHS Principal