



CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL

JESUIT PREPARATION *for* COLLEGE...FOR LIFE

May 15, 2020

Dear Class of 2024 and parents,

We pray this letter finds you and your family well.

Thank you to those of you who were able to join us on Tuesday's zoom meeting. It was good to see so many of you, to welcome you, to share information with you, and to answer some of your questions. We thought we would follow up on our conversation with this letter to review the topics that were discussed and to provide some additional information.

Canisius is actively planning for the reopening of our campus. We will resume normal operations, to the extent possible, according to guidelines provided by state leadership. Over the coming weeks, we will be implementing plans to help ensure a safe return to school. The health and well-being of our school community is our highest priority.

As a leader in implementing an iPad program for educational instruction nearly a decade ago, our students are very comfortable reading their textbooks, writing, submitting papers, taking tests and quizzes, etc. electronically. Faculty, staff and students use the same electronic tools, platforms and programs. This is a blessing at a time like this.

Orientation for freshmen is scheduled to take place in the week before Labor Day. A plan is being created for incoming freshmen to obtain their iPads, along with training on its use and the use of the educational platforms we utilize in the event that the opening of our campus is delayed.

About two months ago, the high school moved to eLearning plans. A new class schedule was swiftly created for our students and it has proven to be very successful. The faculty moved quickly to online instruction, and students continue to report a high level of engagement with their teachers and counselors.

Shortly after we moved from campus to home instruction, we assured our families that no student would be asked to leave Canisius for financial reasons related to COVID-19. Some families needed an extended payment plan, others direct relief. We remain committed to our families.

Similarly, a plan is being made for those obliged or who wish to attend Crusader Prep to receive their iPads, and orientation for its usage, prior to the beginning of this program.

Some have asked whether it might be helpful to participate in Crusader Prep given the challenges of the last quarter of eighth grade instruction. If you have concerns, it may be helpful for an incoming freshman to attend Crusader Prep to be as prepared as possible for freshman year. Having said this, our teachers will be well aware of the need to assess student preparation and readiness. They will do their very best to meet our students where they are when the new school year begins.

Information regarding placement requirements for advanced-standing in math, language and science will be forthcoming. Similarly, you will receive information regarding auditions for the music programs.

Mr. Jim Mauro, director of athletics, will send information regarding summer and fall athletic programs to you soon. For a good workout you might follow Coach Jason Hopkins, our full-time trainer and strength and conditioning coach, on his Canisius HS Strength and Conditioning Twitter account @canisiushs_sc.

If you have questions and would like to contact someone at school for further information, please see "Class of 2024: Whom do I ask?" a reference guide attached with this letter.

Each of us would like to know what the months ahead will bring. The truth is, we do not. But you can be assured that Canisius will be well-positioned to provide you with an outstanding Jesuit education in whatever mode of learning we find ourselves.

As we have been celebrating our 150th Anniversary this year, we have grown in a deeper sense of all that the many generations before us faced during this last century and a half. Today, as we look at the extraordinary strength of our community, the exceptional Jesuit education we offer, and the incredible success of the high school over these many years, we are both consoled and filled with confidence that we will get through this challenging time, too. And we will do it together.

With prayerful best wishes for you and your family,

Fr. David S. Ciancimino, S.J.

President

Ms. Andrea Tyrpak-Endres

Principal

[Crusader Prep 2020 Flyer](#)

[Where do I go? Class of 2024](#)