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COVID-19 Update for Universities

Beginning March 16, 2020, ASW moved to virtual schooling due to COVID-19 and governmental regulations. Every student had a laptop and access to the Internet from their home. For the first week, virtual learning was synchronous, and ASW followed the regular timetable (~85 minute periods x 4/day). To mitigate potential fatigue and promote wellness, beginning on March 23, 2020, the schedule was adjusted to 60 minute periods x4/day until the end of the school year, June 5, 2020. During this time learning remained synchronous for most subjects while some subjects utilized asynchronous approaches.

This year, ASW began school on time. On August 18, all students were welcomed back to campus with new protocols in place, including weekly COVID testing on campus, in order to keep our community as safe as possible. It should be noted however, a small percentage of students have needed/selected the hybrid model of learning (offered this year) which allows students virtual access to courses for extended periods of time. IBDP teachers have been apprised of the changes to the syllabus and assessments recommended by the IB Organization for 2021 and are currently making the necessary adjustments to help prepare their students.

We will continue to offer in school teaching and learning as long as possible, until our safety protocols or the government indicates otherwise, at which time we would switch to full virtual learning.

In regards to standardized testing, SAT/ACT options were very limited due to fewer test dates abroad and test day cancellations. Although the SAT is offered on site this fall, the ACT is offered in a city 4 hours away from ASW, forcing students to take 1-2 days off of school to sit the exam. The counselors at ASW have encouraged students not to sit exams if test scores are optional at the universities in which they will apply.

Gina Cuthbert and Rebecca Pohl HS Counselors

