



06-5-2020

Dear Croton-Harmon High School Families,

As we look forward to ending the school year, end of year celebrations, summer, and hopeful planning for the next school year, our country, community, and our students are witnessing and experiencing a wide range of emotions and impacts in light of recent events.

Although we wish that we were in the building together to be able to process this with our students, we are committed to being here for our students in every way possible. Students are connecting through current events discussions in classes, clubs and organizations are providing opportunities for discussion, counselors are reaching out to students to get feedback on how they feel it is best to discuss and engage together, and Mr. Maxam and I are meeting virtually with students as well. We understand that students will have different ways of processing all that is happening, and we will be there for them as they do.

Please reach out to counselors, Mr. Maxam, or myself if you need any assistance or to share any strong feelings, anxiety, or any other issues that you feel we should know about. We are here to partner with you and support our children. Below are a variety of resources that I hope will help you continue conversations at home and serve as resources for you and your children. I hope you will review them and utilize what is most helpful for you and your families.

As a reminder, for the remaining two weeks of classes beginning next week, students are following a schedule of Google class meetings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. These class meetings are a time to celebrate learning, come together as whole classes, and end the school year in a memorable way together. The schedule is copied below again for your reference.

Resources for Discussing Current Events with Your Children

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/family/in-the-news/talking-about-race/>

<https://www.readbrightly.com/how-to-diversify-your-childs-bookshelves/>

[Challenge Success Resources](#)

[A DL.org resources and tools](#)

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/explaining-the-news-to-our-kids>

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2020/05/31/how-talk-kids-racism-racial-violence-police-brutality/5288065002/>

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/healthy-living/emotional-wellness/Building-Resilience/Pages/Talking-to-Children-about-Racism.aspx>

<https://www.apa.org/helpcenter/kids-discrimination>

End of Year Events and Celebrations

We have much to celebrate now and much to look forward to:

Graduation will be on **June 25 at 4:00 pm** at Croton Point Park. Please enjoy our [graduation announcement video](#) . The ceremony will be livestreamed and filmed so that our entire community will be able to see and support our seniors. Following the ceremony at approximately 6:15, seniors will exit Croton Point Park and will follow a procession route so that the community can congratulate them. Information about the route will be sent out as we get closer to the date. As a reminder, if you do not have access to a car, we will work with you to make sure you are able to participate in the event. Please email me directly or your child's counselor if you are the parent of a senior and do not have access to a car for the graduation ceremony.

Today, **June 5**, would have been our Schoolwide Awards Assembly where our entire student body comes together to celebrate each other's accomplishments. We created a virtual recognition tribute since we are not able to gather in the auditorium this year. Please join us in [viewing this tribute](#) and recognizing the amazing work and dedication of our students. Here is a copy of the [program](#) as well. Students who received awards will be invited to pick them up during the week of June 22.

Congratulations to our newest inductees into the **National Honor Society**. Those students and parents received a link to our [virtual NHS induction yesterday](#). Please join us in congratulating our newest members of the CHHS Chapter of the National Honor Society and extending a thank you to our graduating senior members of NHS who worked hard to preserve the traditions of the induction ceremony in this virtual format.

Thank you to the Croton Community Coalition for sponsoring a spread in the upcoming **June 11** publication of *The Gazette* featuring our senior class. You will find pictures and names of all of our seniors there and we hope that the newspaper will be a tangible memory for you. We thank the Coalition for providing this special recognition for our seniors and their families celebrating the Class of 2020.

We will be hosting our first **CHHS Virtual Science Research Symposium** on **June 12 from 4:00-6:00 pm** . All parents and students involved in the program will be invited, but please reach out to Ms. Light Donovan at Donna.Light@chufsd.org if you are not a parent of a student in the program would like to receive the link to attend.

Yearbook/Cap and Gown Distribution Event for Seniors - **June 19**. 9th-11th graders will be invited to pick up yearbooks that afternoon following the seniors. Times and procedures will be sent out in next Friday's weekly update.

During the week of June 22 we will be having textbook returns, computer/equipment returns, and pickup for awards. Details on times and procedures will be sent next week as well.

Guidance Event

Please join us next week on Thursday, June 11 at 7:00pm for a virtual guidance event: Conducting a Virtual College Search and starting your college essay! [Click here to sign up!](#) Speaker Davin Sweeney, hosted by the CHHS Guidance Department, will talk you through the basics of these two important summer tasks with his relaxed and entertaining style. Mr. Sweeney has been a favorite speaker at our college symposium for a number of years, and has offered to spend some time with us in these unusual times. He is a professional college counselor who formerly worked in SUNY admissions.

Ending the Year Strong and Together Schedule of Classes

We encourage and expect all of our students to attend each of these live class meetings and ask for your assistance and partnership in this effort. Teachers will be posting meeting links on their Google Classroom pages and usual forms of communication. Students should continue to follow the same procedures they have been in terms of checking Google classroom pages daily for work and materials needed for classes in addition to attending the live class meetings. The last day of eLearning for students will be on **June 19** and the last day for students to turn in outstanding work is also **June 19**.

Tuesday 6/9 periods 1-4 (A Day)

Wednesday 6/10 periods 5-8 (A Day)

Thursday 6/11 periods 1-4 (B Day)

Tuesday 6/16 periods 5-8 (B Day)

Wednesday 6/17 periods 1-4 (A Day)

Thursday 6/18 periods 5-8 (A Day)

Periods 1-4 meeting times (6/9, 6/11, 6/17):

Period 1 11:00 -11:20

Period 2 11:30-11:50

Period 3 12:00-12:20

Period 4 12:30-12:50

Period 5-8 meeting times (6/10, 6/16, 6/18):

Period 5 11:00 - 11:20

Period 6 11:30-11:50

Period 7 12:00-12:20

Period 8 12:30-12:50

Please note that if your child is scheduled for Resource Room, their case managers will be in touch about the particulars of the schedule for Resource support.

Below you will find some reminders and resources from previous weekly updates to review.

Thank you for your continued support of CHHS, all of our students, and one another as we end this year strong,

Laura Dubak, Principal, CHHS

Opportunities for Parents

To support parents and caregivers, My Sisters' Place is offering a series of virtual convenings where parents can share experiences and ideas on how to have conversations about romantic relationships, friendships, and digital boundaries.

These conversations are geared for parents of students in grades 7-12. If you would like to participate in the conversation with staff from My Sisters' Place, please register in advance:

[6/9, 1:00 PM Registration Link](#)

[6/9, 7:00 PM Registration Link](#)

Here is information about an opportunity for parents through Student Assistance: [Tuesday Talks About Teens](#).

Parents of Sophomores and Juniors

With SAT tests being rescheduled starting in August, the CHHS PTSA has the opportunity to offer some practice for you!

REVOLUTION PREP is offering a free online practice SAT test, (end of June or July) and PRINCETON REVIEW is offering an online SAT prep class, for a fee (M,W, TH, Aug 3-20).

Please complete [this form](#) by June 10 if your child is interested in either the test and/or prep class. If we do not have enough interest, we will not be able to offer these opportunities, so we are trying to get a head count. THIS IS NOT A REGISTRATION FORM, JUST AN INTEREST FORM.

If you have any questions please email Marlena Horton, PTSA Junior Class Representative marlena.horton@chufsd.org.

SAT Update

The Collegeboard recently announced that they are cancelling the June SAT administration and announced a plan for testing next year. They have announced an additional test date on September 26, due to the backlog of students taking the SAT. CHHS plans to offer the test on both September 26 and October 3 this fall, to help students who have not yet tested get a seat. It will be a good idea to sign up early as we expect demand for seats to be high. Please visit their website to review updates and we will keep you informed of any additional ones as they come: [Collegeboard Updates](#).

ACT Update

The ACT has recently updated their website with information about the June 13 test site cancellations: [ACT Updates](#).

More Family Resources

Here is a message and resources from Challenge Success, the organization that we have been working with to survey our students and families thanks to a generous grant from CHEF this year: [A Message to our Challenge Success Family during COVID-19](#)

And here are resources for Families from Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES including resources about setting routines/schedules. This link includes the archived issues of activities so you can see previous ideas:

[PNW BOCES Family Activities Resources](#)