



April 1, 2020

Dear Croton-Harmon High School Families,

We are aware that many members of our community are experiencing various challenges associated with this global pandemic. Students are struggling emotionally and academically and parents have lost jobs or have been furloughed. Small businesses are suffering and family members and extended family members are ill. We understand that not every member of our community is experiencing this in the same way but know that we empathize with one another and support one another.

After careful consideration, CHHS will be grading the third and fourth quarters on a pass/fail basis. At the end of the year, students' transcripts will reflect the average of the first two quarters that were graded using our regular letter grades. In addition, consideration will be given to the overall quality of the work done during quarters 3 and 4 that are graded overall on a P/F basis. Students will still have the opportunity to do their best work and teachers will have the ability to incorporate that student effort and growth holistically in final grades for year long courses.

Teachers will continue to provide instruction, feedback, and meaningful work. We will continue to support teachers as they implement best practices in remote learning and share those with one another. We will continue to focus on connecting with our students in a time that presents challenges with connection and we will continue to focus on student learning while meeting students where they are.

In writing this communication, we reflected on the opening of our school lunch program earlier this year when Dr. O'Connell shared that when one member of our community hurts, we all hurt and that community care is much of what led to us having a lunch program for the first time this year. At this time, many of our students are hurting in ways we never expected a few weeks ago. In addition to the stress that families are under, students are socially isolated and trying to manage emotions and schoolwork while hearing some frightening news in the world around them.

This decision about grading was made with the best interests of our students foremost in our minds. We are in a time in our lives where we need to come together and

recognize that we need to pause and give our children time to adjust to this new normal and reduce stress and barriers where we can.

Feel free to reach out as always with any questions,

Laura Dubak

Principal, CHHS

Mark Maxam

Assistant Principal, CHHS

Other Updates And Highlights From CHHS

April 6th - April 13th, 2020 are now school days. Students should continue to work remotely as the Croton-Harmon Schools will continue the eLearning program.

More Ways to Connect

Mr. Maxam and I are hosting two Google meets with our students this week on Thursday morning and Friday afternoon. We emailed students the invitation and hope that many of them will take a few minutes to join us and connect. We have received so many emails from students telling us how they are doing, so we are hoping that many students will join us just to chat, check in, and connect.

Students will also shortly be receiving a google form from their counselors to check in. The form is a way for students to reflect and share how things are going and to indicate what kinds of support might be helpful as well as to set up times to connect with counselors if they would like to. Although the form is not required, we hope that all of our students will participate so that our counselors can get more information about how to best support students as individuals in this challenging and changing time.

Attendance During eLearning

If for any reason, your child is unable to attend to eLearning on any given day, they must be reported absent by a parent or guardian. An absence can be reported by sending an email from a parent or guardian's email account to Phyllis Cobb:

phyllis.cobb@chufsd.org

eLearning Expectations

As you may have already heard from your children, teachers are holding office hours in a variety of formats and we are pleased to "see" teachers and students connecting in this way. These experiences range from small or full group sessions as well as times

that individual students can sign up for a time slot to virtually meet with their teacher. As we adopt the use of more live options for this, please be reminded that students are expected to engage with teachers and each other appropriately, just as they would if we were in the school building. You may be aware that there is a growing trend for teenagers to screenshot and post clips of live sessions with teachers and other students and post them on various social networks (tik tok, snapchat, etc.) We hope that our students would not engage in this and ask for your help in making sure they hear this message at home so that we are able to continue to provide this kind of virtual meeting time for our students and teachers. Here is a [link to our board policy regarding internet safety](#).

Child Nutrition Program

Those students that qualify for free and reduced meals can continue to pick-up meals at the main entrance of PVC Middle School between 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. daily, for the remainder of this week. Beginning next week (Monday, April 6) we will be changing the lunch service to twice a week, and it will be a multi-meal pickup. Each family will pick up a bag of meals that will have a mix of grab-and-go meals and grocery items. Pickup will be Monday (3 meals) and Thursday (2 meals) at the PVC Welcome Center between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Census 2020

Join the movement to make sure every child is counted in the 2020 Census. Please find information below about the importance of the Census and resources for different ages, grade levels and content areas.

[Census 2020 Flier English](#)

[Census 2020 Flier Espanol](#)

[Census 2020 Activities and Learning Resources](#)

AP Exam Reminder

As a reminder, here is a link to the information that was sent last week to students and families regarding AP exams this year: [AP Exam letter March 27, 2020](#)

As always, please reach out with any questions. We are in this together,

Laura Dubak

Principal, CHHS