

April 7, 2020

HCS Families,

Last Thursday, Governor Holcomb announced that all public and private schools have been closed for the duration of the 2019 - 2020 school year.

Calendar:

Moving forward, Highland Christian will maintain a 3/2 Calendar for the remainder of the school year. This means that five days of instruction will be dispersed and assigned on three days of the week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday). However, students will still have Tuesday and Thursday to complete these assignments. This will provide additional flexibility for instructors to create instructionally rich resources for your child and grant families with various needs more flexibility with when assignments can be completed.

Here is a copy of the updated [April - June Academic Calendar](#).

Student Services:

Teachers have continued to work hard creating resources that support student learning in the home. These teacher-created resources will supplement the following student services:

1. Students from Kindergarten - 5th grade will have weekly one-on-one Zoom Conference calls with their teacher.
2. Students in 6th - 8th grade will have 40 minute classroom Zoom meetings with each of their five core classes.
3. Students in Discovery Center will be meeting (via Zoom) for one-on-one sessions weekly with Mrs. Acterhof, Mrs. Powell, or Mrs. Vant Hoff.
4. 3rd - 5th graders receiving Targeted Instruction will receive weekly small group Zoom sessions with Mrs. Flory.

Faith Formation:

Spiritual Growth and Faith Formation will continue to be hallmarks of Highland Christian School. As teachers continue to weave God's word into their lessons, we will continue to offer the following student and family opportunities:

- Chapel will be hosted on [Highland Christian's Facebook Page](#) every Thursday morning at 8:30am. These chapels are geared for all ages and will be led by Mr. and Mrs. Weener and Mrs. Huizenga.
- "See-A-Need, Fill-A-Need" will continue.
 - We are continuing to support our community by sending cards to our constituents. Here is the video outlining this project: <https://vimeo.com/399741021>
 - Once you have written a card, please fill out our [Google Form](#).
- Mrs. Huizenga has made weekly [Family Devotions](#). Going forward, these will be found in the Blue Note, which will re-start on Monday, April 13.

Other School Events:

At this time, all school events have been canceled or postponed until further notice.

- Graduation will be rescheduled for a later day. More information will be shared in the coming weeks.
- The Society Meeting has been rescheduled for Monday, June 8 at 7:30pm. Absentee ballots will be sent if we are not able to meet in person.
- The HCS Auction will be taking place on Saturday, June 6.

Pick-Up Dates:

Three mandatory pick-up/drop-off days are currently our calendar. These dates are:

- *Wednesday, April 8 (3pm - 6pm)*
 - Please be sure to bring your student's completed work, as communicated by your child's teacher. This will be collected and assessed appropriately.
 - If you have a Jr. High student who needs Zoom added to his or her laptop, please bring this to the pick-up night for Mr. VanderWoude to assist.
- *Monday, May 4 (3pm - 6pm)*
- *Monday, June 1 (Time - TBD)*

School Expenses, Tuition, HCS Support:

During this challenging season, expenses at Highland Christian have remained constant. Teachers and support staff continue to work to establish resources for students, building expenses are maintained, and annual curriculum costs will be ongoing. Consequently, it is important that we receive tuition as scheduled. Please note that bus fees from March 16 to June 3 will be credited back to student accounts in the coming week.

In the event that you are experiencing financial hardship, due to a loss of employment or other extenuating circumstances, please communicate with the finance committee at covid@highlandchristian.org. Funds have been allocated to support those who have been heavily impacted by COVID-19.

Update for Community:

Last week, Highland Christian communicated that a community member of ours tested positive for COVID-19. This constituent has since been released from the hospital and has returned home. Please continue to be in prayer for our entire community.

Again, thank you for your support as we strive to provide excellent education during uncertain times. We are, and will always be, stronger together.

Blessings Always -

Kyle Weener - Highland Christian Principal
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