



March 31, 2020

CCHS District 165 Students, Parents, and Community Members,

I want to send an update on some actions we are taking in response to the COVID-19 epidemic:

Governor Extends 'Stay in Place' Order

Today Governor Pritzker indicated he will sign an executive order for Illinois residents to 'stay in place' through April 30, 2020. ***CCHS will not be in session through April 30***, although we are continuing to connect with families to provide remote learning and enrichment opportunities. Except as noted below, all school related facilities and events are canceled through April 30, 2020.

Remote Learning

On Friday, March 27, 2020 the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) released guidance indicating school districts must create Remote Learning Plans to continue the education of students during the COVID-19 epidemic. ISBE also designated five planning days to implement those plans if needed.

CCHS will use planning days this week to structure its full Remote Learning Plan. We currently have enrichment materials available on the website, and teachers have connected with students via email and other electronic media. However, a substantial number of our students do not have devices or internet access at home. ***By Monday, April 6, we will mail paper packets home to all students in grades 9 through 11.***

I will post an additional update when the Remote Learning Plan is finalized. It will primarily consist of the mailings and online enrichment materials as the school year moves forward. Grading information will be included in the plan, ***but students should know that their academic standing at CCHS will not be negatively impacted by the COVID-19 epidemic.*** There may be additional requirements for AP and dual credit courses, above the CCHS credit requirements. Please check with your teacher if you are enrolled in these courses.

Graduation

The graduation ceremony will not occur at the Banterra Center as originally planned. We will make every effort to hold a graduation ceremony. We will explore virtual options in addition to traditional ceremonies as soon as the Governor lifts the 'stay in place' order.

Prior to Friday, April 10, every senior will receive a phone call from school officials to discuss their graduation status. ISBE plans on releasing additional guidance on graduation and promotion in the coming days. Additional information will also be mailed to seniors next week.

Awards Night

The Awards Night Event on May 7 has been canceled. However, seniors are still eligible for numerous scholarships. Ms. Murphy emailed all seniors a detailed reminder about scholarships on March 21, and students should email her with any questions. Scholarship recipients will be notified via school email the week of May 4, 2020.

SAT

The free SAT offered at CCHS on April 14 has been canceled. ISBE is working with the College Board to provide other options for Juniors. I will provide additional updates as they become available, but I do not anticipate further updates on the SAT until at least May.

The next Saturday SAT is offered on June 6th; [registration](#) deadline is May 8.

The next Saturday ACT is offered June 13th; [registration](#) deadline is May 8.

I cannot guarantee that those dates will be honored as COVID-19 spreads but they are still available. If you receive free or reduced lunch, you are eligible for a fee waiver to cover registration costs; email Ms. Antrim or Mr. Graham for your waiver code.

Prom

Prom has been postponed indefinitely. We will continue to monitor the guidance from state and local officials on group gatherings as the year progresses.

School Meals

The Governor's executive order does NOT impact school meal delivery. The school district will still provide meals as outlined in my [March 17 Update](#).

Stay Informed

I will continue to provide updates on the extended closure as they become available. Please check the school [website](#) for additional updates and educational enrichment materials. Students, please continue to check your email regularly for updates from teachers.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at steve.murphy@cchs165.com or call at 618-457-4722 ext 27. You should also feel free to contact Principal Ryan Thomas at ryan.thomas@cchs165.com or 618-457-3371 ext 225.

As always, the health and safety of our students is our top priority. Please take time to care for yourself, your friends and family and to reach out to school and community supports with any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Stephen Murphy
Superintendent