



HOCKINSON HIGH SCHOOL

16819 NE 159th Street • Brush Prairie, WA 98606 • Phone (360) 448-6450

March 25, 2020

Dear HHS Class of 2020:

Who saw this coming?!

When we started your senior year back on August 28, I think everyone expected the school year to follow the school calendar and hit all of the usual spring milestones as scheduled. The coronavirus pandemic disrupted our lives, our economy, and - of course - your senior year. We suspect that you are experiencing a mixture of emotions, likely including excitement, disappointment, and anxiety.

One of the biggest sources of anxiety is the unknown. This letter is our first senior-focused attempt to update you on what we know right now and how we expect things will roll out over the next few weeks. What we want you to understand is that information from our state is changing fast. So be prepared for some changes in the coming weeks!

Graduation ceremony and requirements: As you may have already heard, HHS Graduation is now scheduled for Thursday, June 11. Officially, your final day of attendance will be Friday, June 12. That will not look like a normal school day - more information to follow.

While we do not expect the date of graduation to change, the last day of school could, depending on what our state requires. If that were to happen, you would be expected to attend additional days to complete your coursework.

SBAC Tests: As of March 13, all state testing has been canceled. It does not appear that many - if any - of you needed to pass SBAC this spring to graduate. However, if you are unsure of your status, contact your counselor.

High School and Beyond Plans: Mrs. Miller has already reached out to you about HSBP work that is incomplete. Please use this opportunity to bring your plan up-to-date.

Counselors: High School counselors are available via email and are working to create systems of support. Contact:

Jenn Miller - College & Career Questions (including HSBP) - jennifer.miller@hocksd.org

Myke Pace - Students Last Name L-Z - myke.pace@hocksd.org

Brian Kimber - Students Last Name A-K - brian.kimber@hocksd.org

AP tests: Instead of taking AP tests at a testing site, The College Board is developing plans for students to take a shortened exam at home. More info found here:

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap/news-changes/coronavirus-update>

SAT exams: The makeup exam scheduled for tomorrow March 28, as well as the exam scheduled for May 2, has been canceled. Registered students will receive a refund. Students can go to <https://www.collegeboard.org/> for updated information.

ACT exams: ACT has rescheduled its April 4 national test date to June 13. Students can go to <https://www.act.org/> for more information.

Running Start: Check the Clark College website for updates: <http://www.clark.edu/>.

We know you have questions. To be honest, so do we! But we are learning more every day as our state and district adjust to our new normal...which is very abnormal. Our district will continue to communicate with our partners: The Office of Public Instruction (OSPI), State Board of Education, colleges, community colleges and universities that provide credit bearing classes for our students. Also, we expect that OSPI and the State Board of Education will be providing us with additional guidance with regard to graduation requirements by mid-April. In the meantime, we assure you that:

We will not leave you hanging. The impacts of this pandemic were out of your control. So we will adjust course requirements and create meaningful and achievable learning expectations. That being said, *you will be expected to do your part*. You will still have to complete required assignments in order to earn grades in your classes necessary for graduation.

You will be supported by teachers, administrators, and counselors. But you may need to do more self advocating than you have done in the past. If you have questions, we expect you to reach out and ask.

There will be a graduation ceremony. It might be outside. It might be virtual. But we will create an event to mark this special accomplishment.

We will keep you informed in the weeks ahead. You are one of our top priorities. OSPI has three main goals and getting the Class of 2020 to graduation is one of those goals.

Hang in there. If you are a little down about this detour to graduation, we understand. If you are excited you do not have to come to school, we get that, too. But we must finish strong. It will take flexibility on everyone's part and it will require communication. This communication will be from us to you AND from you to us. If we all do our part, we will get you across the stage (or screen) on June 11.

Stay safe this Spring Break and get mentally prepared to begin at-home learning on April 6.

Sincerely,

Steve Marshall
Superintendent
HSD

Andy Schoonover
Principal
HHS