

Glenda Cowell, Principal

Doug Evers, Asst. Principal/A.D.

Dave Fennewald, Asst. Principal

March 29, 2020

Dear MHS Families,

Thank you for making our Curbside Pick Up Days a success! We appreciate your patience and flexibility as we move to virtual learning. We realize this change is significant for all of us! Our team is working to design a flexible plan that is centered on wellness, connectedness, and learning. Please know that each and every student is valuable!

Next week, we are focused on **gradually moving into virtual learning**. Here's what to expect from March 29-April 3:

- Communication Updates: While our building is closed, MHS Office Staff will check the school's general voicemail. If you need to leave us a message, please call 316-777-1183 and follow the prompts to leave a message. Also, <u>click here</u> to access a list of email addresses for MHS Faculty & Staff.
  - ✓ Additionally, advisors will be calling parents this week to address questions and survey about internet needs.
  - ✓ Students will need to check Gmail, Google Classroom, and Grades daily as we move forward. Also, here is a link to a parents overview of Google Classroom.
- Wrapping up Make-Up Work: Students should continue completing any make up work and assignments that were assigned prior to spring break. Students should begin by checking their grades in SkyWard, their email, and Google Classroom. Email teachers if questions arise.
- Advisory Lessons on Organizing for Learning at Home: Monday, March 30 Friday, April 3, Advisors will post lessons in Google Classroom each morning by 8:30. Parents can access information on these lessons and the Google Apps that we'll be using through this folder.
- ✓ Virtual Classes, Meetings & Office Hours: Students will meet virtually with their Advisory on Thursday or Friday. If your student is unavailable during the specified time, it will be ok; the advisor will be in touch to connect with them.
  - ✓ As we begin virtual school meetings, it's important for students to remember that these virtual meetings are like being in class, even though the student is at home. During virtual school meetings, students should dress and communicate as if they were sitting in class at school. (School expectations/policies for dress, communication, academic honesty, etc. still apply even though the student is meeting virtually with the teacher/class.)

- ✓ <u>Chromebook Updates</u>: Chromebook updates have taken place to allow teachers to conduct class virtually.
  - ✓ I encourage all parents to sign up for a <u>Securly account</u> to give you access to your student's Chromebook activity.
  - ✓ Additionally, if your student's Chromebook is not functioning properly, <u>here is a link</u> <u>to a reset</u>. If more support is needed, please contact our IT department at <u>tschmitz@usd263.org</u> or by calling 777-1102.
- ✓ Dual Credit College Courses that were offered at MHS (College Algebra, Comp 2) will resume on March 30. Teachers will share information with students.

Looking forward, students can expect to resume classwork on April 6<sup>th</sup>, but teaching and learning will look different. We will be following KSDE's recommended guideline regarding time commitments and expectations. Our students will be expected to engage in school work for approximately 3 hours per school day. The MHS Team has been working to design a flexible yet supportive option for our students. Additionally, each teacher will be available to students virtually for 2 hours each school day. We'll continue taking this one step at a time, working to support our students and parents along the way.

I hope each and every one of you are well! Thank you for working with us as we persevere through this challenge! We have good work yet to do!

Wildcat Pride 💙

Glenda Cowell MHS Principal