March 23, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you and your families are doing well during this very difficult period. We promise to stay connected and supportive of our students and families as we navigate this challenge. As we move to implement remote learning tomorrow and, in the weeks, ahead, we will make adjustments, share best practices, and learn from each other. Many questions and concerns have and will continue to come up as we take this journey together.

All teachers will have classes online. We have compiled a list of what platforms they are currently using with their students. If changes are made, the list will be updated. Many of our teachers have already begun teaching this past week with students ready to begin at home, inviting them to google classrooms or hosting classes on zoom, engaging in conversations and using Jupiter and/or Pupilpath. The expectation is that all teachers

• Deliver content, lessons, and resources
• Assign work, collect work and provide feedback to students and families
• Engage in conversation via recorded sessions, live sessions or discussion platforms that may or may not be in real time.

Grading Policies:
Grading policies will remain in place during distance learning and teachers will count online participation as class participation. Teachers will be assigning at a minimum, week-long assignments. Students are expected to participate and engage in online learning and complete their work.

Grades for Marking Periods 2 and 3:
For Marking Period 2, we will keep E, S, N, U grading and decide what to do for MP3 based on departmental feedback. The E, S, N, U format is an understood schema and has grade distributions that are already established and understood. There have been a few requests to move to pass/fail grading, however, such a shift may lack sufficient specificity in feedback and diminish student work and rigor. There have also been requests to keep the current grading numeric grading format, and I believe this will create too much stress over grades. The E, S, N, U is the right balance for Marking Period 2.

Exam Moratorium Update and Student Computer Access:
The moratorium for a two-week period will stay in place as stated, and will be lifted on March 27. Many of our students just received laptops this week and/or share devices with siblings, who may have their own assignments, and may not be able to log in at the same time. We are also working with the district on federally mandated extended time on online exams. Given this situation, teachers will work with students who need to make up work from last week without penalty. Live classes should only take place during the scheduled class time frame, and should be limited. Assignments will be posted in one
Location. Students should not be in a situation where they feel they will miss something if they were not able to log in at a scheduled time.

Students answered a survey to determine which electronic devices they have in their homes and if they have Wi-Fi at home. Please notify Ms. Ingram and Dr. Haber if there is a need for technology and Wi-Fi at home. Families who need assistance with internet service may refer to [this helpful list](#). Students who responded to a device survey from Dr. Haber picked up laptops on March 19 & 20 from Stuyvesant. Families that still need electronic devices should also submit their request in this [DOE survey](#). Families can also call 718-935-5100 and select option 5 to complete the survey over the phone. They will be prioritizing students in temporary housing and neediest families.

**Information on Regents and AP Exams:**
There are a number of changes to [NYS assessments](#) and [AP exams](#). Dr. Haber will share the most current information and the impact on our school year in an upcoming communication.

**Work During the Spring Recess, April 9-April 17:**
Early last week, I agreed to allow work during Spring Recess for Advanced Placement classes and Regents classes. Given recent changes late this week, which include a reduction in content for AP exam, we will keep our current [homework policy](#) of no assignments to be given over break. This break is inclusive of a number of important holidays for families and may be used as a time by families to transition and prepare for a prolonged new reality for all of us. If necessary, we will revisit this policy for Regents and AP classes and make an announcement.

**School Day & Student Attendance:**
On Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, we will follow the [Regular Bell Schedule](#). On Wednesdays, we will follow the [Conference Bell Schedule](#).

Students will also be asked to virtually "swipe their identification cards" by responding to a one question survey they will receive at the start of the school day. During this morning check in, students will also have an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

**School Counselors:**
A separate email was sent out about guidance supports from Ms. Pedrick and repeated to parents through Ms. Ingram. Do not hesitate to reach out or have your children reach out to their school counselor during this time. The counseling team has been very active in meetings via Zoom, and counselors have created their own Google counseling offices to provide direct outreach. If a student has not been participating in remote learning activities, counselors will work with teachers to provide outreach and support. Teachers, counselors and families will be connected throughout this process.

**Ongoing Communication:**
During this time, we know that providing staff, students and families with information is very important. Announcements, including academic supports and updates will be posted on the [Stuy Blog](#) on Talos, through Ms. Ingram’s Updates and emails as well as on [Stuy’s Facebook](#) and [Twitter pages](#) and on [Stuy’s Website](#). Throughout distance learning, Ms. Ingram is available to parents and guardians via email at [ringram3@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:ringram3@schools.nyc.gov) and on her cell phone during school hours at 347-224-6673.
As we manage our conversations about grades, work and instruction, it is important that we remember the love and support we share as a community. Thank you again for your unbelievable dedication and hard work during this time. Take care of yourself and your loved ones. We are one email, phone call or zoom session away. Even if we are still closed, I’m looking to keep our next breakfast with the principal via a Zoom session. It will be, I apologize, BYOB. Our collective goal is to support a level of continuity and connection, and maintain the small things that make us a special and unique school community.

With best wishes,
Eric