



## SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CHATHAMS

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CHATHAM HIGH SCHOOL  
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April 3, 2020

Dear Students and Parents,

As we complete our third week of online learning and head into Spring Break, I would like to take a minute to let everyone know that the administration at the high school thinks you have done an amazing job. A little over three weeks ago, you were walking the halls of CHS going to class and participating in your after school activities. We were notified that within 48 - 72 hours, school would be closed as well as all afterschool activities. Starting the following Monday, we were about to embark on an online learning experience that we had never encountered before. With two days left of school, our teachers met with all of their classes, informed them of what they can possibly expect from their class during this time, and the doors closed at 2:35pm on Friday, March 13.

Patience and perspective were going to be key as we transitioned to online learning. Patience was needed as we planned for what we thought things were going to be like with online learning. During the first three weeks, teachers planned, reflected on their expectations and adjusted accordingly to ensure that students were able to manage the workload. While the teachers adjusted their lessons, the administration set a few guidelines to create consistency for the students and hopefully reduce stress related to their schoolwork. Perspective was also needed as we knew that there was no way we would be able to mirror the experience that our students would get if school was not closed. We knew that over the coming weeks, there would be many students and families dealing with brand new challenges that are going to be of higher priority than school.

We know that this online learning experience is not ideal. We know that there are difficult situations that some of us are dealing with. We know that we all want school to be open and running as normal. Considering the fact that some of these things are out of our control, I think you are all handling things as well as can be expected and I think you have done a great job navigating these last three weeks. In some ways, this has been more challenging than actually being in school.

With Spring Break upon us, I encourage you to unplug from your schoolwork and explore other things that may be of interest to you that can be done at home or from a distance. Continue to follow the health guidelines. Enjoy the time with your family.

Teachers and staff will be unplugged next week. School will resume on Monday, April 13. While we don't know how long we will ultimately be learning online, we will be in a better place instructionally on April 13 and look forward to continuing the connections and interactions online.

Please continue to utilize your counselor as a resource as needed and continue to communicate with your teachers upon our return to connecting online.

Be well.

Mr. Groh