

March 20, 2020

Dear CA Family,

I want to thank you for all you have done to work through our first week of distance learning. This was a fast change and an adjustment for you and your child(ren), and I appreciate your support to help make this happen. I have heard so many positive stories, and received numerous photos and videos of your children hard at work. *Clarksville Academy At Home* would not be possible without the countless hours our teachers have worked.

As the COVID-19 virus continues to spread and affect our local, national, and global communities, Clarksville Academy will continue with distance learning after Spring Break, beginning **Monday, March 30 through April 13**. At this time, students will **tentatively return to school Tuesday, April 14**, following Easter break. Spring coaches, athletes, and parents will receive further communication from Athletic Director, Jake Peterson regarding spring play updates as we receive them from TSSAA.

Every day we receive more information regarding COVID-19 and what that means for our community. Due to the ever changing nature of this virus, I want to assure you that your child(ren)'s health is my number one priority. We will not return to school until we feel it is safe to do so. I also do not want to close school any longer than necessary. The CA Administrative team has continued to meet, virtually, and will continue to meet in order to make the best decision for our school community. **All dates are fluid and subject to change at any time.**

We will not have distance learning classes during Spring Break, next week, (March 23-27). In the coming week, we will send more information on our distance learning program and how this will evolve over the time we continue to be at home. I recognize this is a stressful time in our country, and my hope is to give our students continuity, while also continuing to engage them in our school community.

Schedule updates and cancellations will continue to be posted on our website. However, we want to assure our CA Family, that long standing traditions like Steak Dinner, Prom, and Graduation are events we will work to preserve for our students and families.

The Heads of School and I are also well aware of the approaching summative spring testing schedule. We have discussed these tests and what is best for our student population. Testing our students is a process we value. It provides us with a measure of student preparedness and shows a student's growth from year to year. It also gives us a global view of student achievement and the pacing of our curriculum.

Typically, during this time of year, teachers are planning and carefully preparing our students to participate in ACT spring testing. While testing is an important component of the process of curriculum and learning decisions, the data we receive from ACT is just one tool that our departments utilize in academic and curriculum decision making. In keeping with what is best for our students in perspective, we have decided to **cancel all ACT spring testing for this school year**. This includes Aspire and PreACT testing for grades 3-10.

In addition, we are monitoring the College Board's decisions on AP testing. The College Board is committed to providing flexible and streamlined testing opportunities and is working with colleges and universities to ensure students will receive the college credits they have been working toward throughout the school year. Mrs. Walker will forward information as it becomes available.

The health and safety of our students, faculty and staff, and the full Clarksville Academy family is always our top priority. I wish you a safe, happy, and healthy spring break.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hinote

Head of School