

Follow-Up from March 24, 2020 Meeting

Academic Questions:

- **Do we still do the work for teachers online?** If students have not completed any previous assignments for teachers and are able to, please have them completed by April 7, 2020.
- **If they do not pass the course (and will have to retake it next year) will they have to take the STAAR?** Students who are currently enrolled in a STAAR tested subject (Algebra I, English I, English II, Biology, US History) and pass the class will be exempt from that STAAR exam, and it will not be required for graduation. Students who are currently enrolled in a STAAR tested subject, but DO NOT pass the course, will be required to take the STAAR EOC next year.
- **How are the grades going to be determined for this 6 week period?** Please understand that this is new to everyone and we are working to reach all students to assure they are prepared to receive assignments from their teachers. The previous grades will count and as students turn in assignments, they will receive grades from their teachers to be average with their previous grades. If students are missing assignments, they can contact their teacher through email or during class time for further information. The grading period has been extended and will now end on April 9, 2020.
- **When will school start again?** At this time, HISD has closed buildings until April 10, 2020. The district has said they will make the determination on or before April 6th as to whether this will be extended.
- **What is the schedule for students for online learning?** A weekly schedule is set up for students to receive instruction for 2 classes a day. On Tuesday, students will have 1st and 2nd periods, Wednesday 3rd and 4th, Thursday 5th and 6th, and on Friday 7th and 8th. Please visit www.houstonisd.org/heightshs for a video explanation of the schedule.
- **Is there an ap schedule vs other track students?** All schedules will be the same at this time for these 2 weeks. Once we receive information about when students will return to school, we will look at additional needs.
- **Are students still taking final exams?** Yes

- **What happens for students on a graduation plan that are required to complete the Apex course? Is this waived since there is no STAAR?** The only graduation requirement that has been waived for current seniors is the STAAR exam. Students who are in Apex courses will need to continue the requirements to complete the course work. If your student has Apex scheduled during the school day, Ms. Johnson should be in contact with them for support. If your student was in a Saturday credit recovery class, we will address how they can complete those credits as well.
- **What about students, specifically Seniors who had attendance appeals?** Once the district announces their plan after April 6th, we will have more information on how we will support Attendance Appeals.
- **Are students going to have live classes with teachers and other students?** Teachers will use Microsoft Teams which allows live communication between teachers and students.
- **When will grades be updated?** Teachers will be connected with their students next week to discuss missing assignments and will work diligently to input grades in a timely manner. Students can email their teachers for questions on specific assignments. The end of this grading period has been extended to April 9, to allow additional time.
- **Are teachers on board with this task?** Yes, just remember this is new to everyone and we are all learning as we go.
- **Are all teachers available on the Remind App?** Teachers have been given the information to set up a Remind App for their classes. Grade level assistant principals will also set up a Remind App for their students by grade level.
- **Will the students have access to online tutors?** There are several opportunities for students to connect with their teachers for additional support over the course of the week. Please see the online explanation on our website.
- **What will happen with report cards since the cycle is almost over?** The 5th six weeks grading cycle has been extended by the district and ends April 9, 2020.
- **What about online classes in which they required the students to take tests in school?** Students will be able to access these tests during the time we are out of school.
- **Will there be breaks in between classes?** Students will only be assigned 2 classes per day at this time so they will not be overwhelmed. If the dates change to when school will open again, the schedule will be reevaluated with the knowledge we've learned from these next few weeks.

- **Will lessons be recorded for future viewing?** Yes, we understand that families have a lot going on during this trying time and many of our students have additional responsibilities. We encourage students to log in for the live classes whenever possible. However, students can log in and see the lesson and assignment if they miss their scheduled course.
- **Roughly how long will the school day be? Normal hours, or will classes be shorter?** There will be 2 classes per day on Tuesdays through Fridays. Each class is scheduled for 60 minutes. Please see info on our website for additional information on our schedule.
- **So is everyone automatically passing this grade year without the star test and final class exams ? or once we get back to school everything will be the same?** Students are still responsible for passing grades to receive their credits.
- **Credit recovery classes, must they still be complete in order to get the credit? or will those be postponed as well?** The only graduation requirement that has been waived for current seniors is the STAAR exam. Students who are in Apex courses will need to continue the requirements to complete the course work. If your student has Apex scheduled during the school day, Ms. Johnson should be in contact with them for support. If your student was in a Saturday credit recovery class, we will address how they can complete those credits as well.
- **How does attendance work?** For the next two weeks students will be awarded time with their on-line course work completions.
- **Will the classwork be done on here or the hub still?** The HUB.
- **Will there be a time block that teachers and students are required to online engage in learning?** Yes, but for students who are not able to join in during the assigned time will still be able to sign in and receive their instruction and course work.
- **WILL THERE STILL BE ELECTIVE PERIODS?** Yes, students will receive their instruction and course work from their elective teachers during their schedule periods.
- **When will the students get the schedule for the online classes?** Friday, March 27, 2020.
- **Will students get reasonable feedback on their daily work in order to assure and maximize learning?** Yes. Teachers have been asked to explain to their classes the process they will use to provide feedback.
- **Did you say we will be able to see our teachers teach?** Instruction will come in many forms from teachers, but yes. You will have video access in Microsoft Teams.

- **Will the assignments be on both the HUB and google classroom, teams? or depends on the teacher?** Teachers will be using several different teaching tools for instruction. Assignments will be posted on the HUB or Google Classroom.
- **How early will classes start?** Tuesday, March 31, 2020.
- **Why are some teachers starting unofficially before the proposed beginning on Monday?** All teachers were asked to call their second period class to check on their well being and the needs of their family. We have had some parents and students ask for opportunities earlier, and many teachers posted their assignments early.
- **Will students have to make the days up?** There is no news on make-up dates at this time.
- **Will the HUB continue to be updated for grades?** Yes, teachers are still required to update grades.
- **Are there any tasks for students this week to get ready for Tuesday?** Students need to make sure their laptops are charged and ready to receive instruction from their teachers. They need to be aware of the times each class is scheduled for instruction.
- **What if their teacher isn't responding to our email about a missing assignment?** Please reach out to their grade level Assistant Principal through email to share your concerns.

Advanced Academics:

- **Is there an ap schedule vs other track students?** As for these two weeks, everyone will be on the same schedule. As we learn more information, we will address this need further.
- **Do AP students need to register for the test still or is there going to be a platform provided?** This information has not been shared at this time. As soon as we are aware of this information, we will be reaching out to each of our students.
- **How will IB Juniors meet their IB requirements?** IB is currently working on alternative plans. We will share information as it is received. A FAQ from IB was posted today on the social media site. You can also visit www.ibo.org for details.

Testing:

- **How do I sign up for those summer SAT tests?** Please visit the college board website at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat> for information on how to register for the SAT.

Technical:

- **I'm having issues with my laptop, how should i get that handled?** Please submit a techtown ticket here: <https://bit.ly/hhstechticket> Mr. Perez or Ms. Mesa will follow-up for the best solution. There is also a Techtown section in the Heights High School website with helpful troubleshooting tip
- **Will I have to create an account with Microsoft teams for the classes?** Students do not need to create an account with Microsoft teams. All students have access to the approved HISD Microsoft Apps, which includes Teams. Your student will log into office365.houstonisd.org and follow the instructions. You can also get helpful tips from the "Techtown" section on Heights website or <https://www.houstonisd.org/HOME>
- **What if I do not have the internet?** Please fill out the [HISD Home Survey](#) and you can also check out this help site for [internet access for students at home](#)

Senior Related Questions:

- **When will Prom happen?** The only events canceled so far are all events for the month of April. We have to wait for further information from the district to decide if Prom is still happening in May.
- **What will happen with graduation?** Graduation will be decided by the district when they receive further information.
- **What will happen with Senior due money?** Students will be able to receive refunds if their events get canceled. The only cancelation as of now are all April events.
- **Can we have graduation outside?** The district will make decisions on graduation as we receive more information.

- **What will happen with the senior cap and gowns that were being delivered to the school end of April? How can we get those?** Once the district informs us of a return date if it is not April 6th, we will give you further information.
- **What about yearbooks?** Yearbooks are still being published. The only event that will not be in this year's Yearbook that is normally in the Yearbook is Go Texan Day.
- **What about Balfour items purchased? cap and gown, invitations, etc. (since there may not be a need for them)** Balfour is holding all orders until we have more information about our return to school.
- **Will seniors get to do a panoramic picture?** Determination will be made upon decision to return to school.
- **How is our final transcript going to workout?** As far as grades, those will be determined as they have been in the past according to the information we have now. Should that change we will notify students immediately.
- **Will there be an opportunity for Seniors who did not complete their CPR requirement to complete it? I know HISD has a great CPR teacher and most is a webinar.** We will make a determination on how CPR requirements will be complete after April 6th.

Other:

- **My daughter is in the band and they have a field trip in June. I have already paid a portion of the fees. Is that field trip still happening or will I be able to get a refund?** All events for April have been canceled. The district has not given information for future months. Please check with the band directors as they will have the most up to date information on what the travel company is advising regarding refunds.