



Hello Lion Family:

I hope this letter finds each of you safe and healthy at home. The Den has been silent and absent of our Lions and this saddens me. I'm sad we won't be able to greet our Lions every morning. I'm sad when I see empty hallways. The silence of the building is daunting. My next thought is for our Seniors. I will send them a separate message soon explaining our senior activity changes. I don't know how long we will need to delay senior activities, but we are certainly hopeful we can send out the Class of 2020 in the way they deserve.

The campus plan is to reach out to every student this week to establish a form of contact via email, text, or phone call. We know during this pandemic our students may need assistance with academic and social/emotional support. We want to prioritize continuing to offer both.

So how do we keep our students engaged and learning through a worldwide pandemic? We are going to continue to provide innovative digital learning! During this transition to H.O.M.E learning, we realize there will be difficulties, but we will be problem solvers and make this work. We are entering into uncomfortable territories, moving from incorporating online instruction with our face-to-face instruction to strictly online instruction, but we are ready for this challenge. As a leadership team, we will continue to support learning, offer choices, and encourage student creativity. Our teachers participated in virtual planning meetings with administration and content areas all last week. Please understand that upon returning from Spring Break, our teachers immediately began modifying their lessons to support the H.O.M.E. learning, navigating through several platforms to solidify which platform they will use to continue to provide instruction virtually. We will use this week to slowly get going with the expectation that we are all engaged beginning Tuesday, March 31st. We must remember to be patient and understanding with one another.

Our Support Team is ready to help:

Mrs. LaSalle, Mrs. Perry and Mrs. Preston are our Instructional Specialists. They have worked long hours, diligently helping our teachers create lessons, activities, and tutorial videos to ensure our students have all their instructional needs to **Be Great At YATES!** You may reach Mrs. LaSalle via email: <u>arasmus@houstonisd.org</u> or call 713-443-9669; Mrs. Perry email: <u>veronica.perry@houstonisd.org</u>; Mrs. Preston email: <u>smarti17@houstonisd.org</u>

Ms. Hurst, Campus Technologist has put in countless hours this week getting our teachers and students prepared for our digital campus. If you have any technology concerns email: <u>Shontisa.hurst@houstonisd.org</u> or call 409-291-8856

Ms. Jeffery, our 11th/12th grade counselor and 504 manager, will be in contact with our 504 students and our seniors to make sure they are supported. She will continue to set up meetings via phone conference or virtually as needed. Please email the teacher or dean if your student





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requires additional support. For further assistance you can contact Ms. Jeffery via email: tjeffrey@houstonisd.org

Ms. Love, 9th/10th grade counselor will be available to support our students with their academic needs. Ms. Love is also our AP academic liaison. For further assistance you can contact Ms. Love via email: <u>jlove3@houstonisd.org</u> or call 409-420-2628

Ms. Williams, Special Education Department Chair and her team will reach out to our Special Education students this week to make sure they have laptops to continue their learning. She will be in contact with families for continuing ARD's via conference calls or virtually. Further assistance you can reach out to Mrs. Williams via email: <u>kwilli62@houstonisd.org</u>

Ms. McCoy, our Wrap Around Specialist, will be available to help with social emotional learning. She has been reaching to our students since last week and will continue to reach out to our lion families. Further assistance you can reach out to Ms. McCoy via email: <u>tiffany.mccoy@houstonisd.org</u> or call 832-315-4693

Ms. Brown, our Magnet Coordinator, will be available to answer any questions relating to School of Communication, Maritime, Dual Credit, and Magnet applications. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out via email: <u>andrea.brown@houstonisd.org</u> or call 832-356-8672

Lastly, our Grade Level Deans will be working with teachers and students with an academic and empathetic focus:

Duane Clark: 9th Grade Dean (Algebra I and Science) If you have any concerns, you can contact Mr. Clark via email <u>dclark@houstonisd.org</u> or 281-685-6253.

Angela Cornelius: 10th Grade Dean (Math) If you have any concerns, you can contact Ms. Cornelius via email: <u>angela.cornelius@houstonisd.org</u> or 409-291-8499.

Alfiee Wheatfall: Dean of Instruction and 11th/12th grade Administrator (ELA) If you have any concerns, you can contact Mrs. Wheatfall via email: <u>awheatf1@houstonisd.org</u> or 832-856-1407.

Mr. Butler: Discipline Specialist (Social Studies) You can reach Mr. Butler via email: <u>wbutler@houstonisd.org</u>

Please reach out if you have questions or concerns. I would like to ask for your patience with our teachers and staff as we transition and navigate our digital campus, something we've never done before. There will be bumps in the road and mistakes, but we are a strong Lion family and will work through this together. We look forward to connecting with you soon. As always – *The Lions are Roaring*!







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