KEY POINTS FROM SENIOR MEETING

Keys to Finishing Spring 2020 Classes:

- Complete all 5th six weeks work by Thursday (4/9) no later than 12:00 p.m. The overall average going into the 6th six weeks is critical! Be sure you are passing with a 70 average or higher for 4th/5th cycles! Check Gradespeed daily!
- All classes matter – electives included! We want you to keep the same graduation plan – you are almost there!
- Log in every day on the HUB to your classes to check for updates, watch videos/view instruction, and complete/upload work. If you don’t understand – ask! Do a little every day.
- Communicate with your teachers directly via HUB or email about questions, concerns, and issues. Reach out for help – Ms. Arvie, Ms. Nixon, and whole staff are here to help! This process is new and challenging for all of us. You have to engage for it to work for you!
- Structure time to work in a useable space around other commitments. Be sure to take advantage of hours teachers are “Live” each day for quick responses.
- Get organized – make a list, set reminders, create a calendar, or do whatever works for you!
- Collaborate – work with others taking the class to figure out questions and study. You know how to FaceTime!
- Get familiar with new technology. Have a tech issue – email Ms. Arvie or Ms. Nixon with name, ID, phone number and description of the issue. Know your HISD email S####@online.houstonisd.org. Check it on the HUB. Also check your personal email and HCC email (DC English only). MS Teams will be key for many of you. Follow the links sent to your email by your teacher/staff and JOIN when using your laptop. On your cell phone, download the App (free) from the App Store and set it up using your HISD email. Look at the calendar in your app or email to JOIN from there, too.
- PERSIST, PERSERVERE AND PERFORM!

Removing Roadblock to Graduation:

- Buyback Hours (NG Removal)
  - If you have a sheet with hours started email to Dean (Mrs. Arvie or Mrs. Nixon) by April 15, 2020
  - Packets like ones done previously will be provided on the HUB for those need more hours. IGC STAAR packets also count towards NG hours.
  - Email completed Packets to you’re your DEAN
  - Deadline to Complete hours --- May 1, 2020
  - Don’t wait to last minute (some work may require you to add information to receive your hours)
- Completing IGC PACKET – Students received packet prior to Spring Break from Ms. Arvie, Ms. Flores or Ms. Nixon.
  - DEADLINE – APRIL 21, 2020
  - Reminders will be sent to students via the HUB and email
We will be creating HUB lessons that allow you to turn in your projects. Stay tuned for more info. You will be able to either type your answers or take a picture of your work to upload.

1. English 1 & 2 -------- Ms. Brooks, Ms. Sanders, Ms. Petersen (email to your English teacher)
2. Algebra 1--------------- Mr. Ray
3. US History-------------- Mr. Verdone
4. Biology------------------ Mr. Sigren

- You must complete ALL packets received. Students can complete up to 5 IGC packets.
- Not completing and getting passing grade will result of a delay in you graduating.
- Look for notifications from one of the above teachers, if you need to make corrections to get a passing grade. Do not wait until deadline to submit 🥺

- **Credit Recovery**
  - We need an updated email.
  - Classes are currently held on Sat from 9am to 1pm.
    1. Currently you receive an invite in your email (HISD email and personal email)
    2. You JOIN the class to get your enrollment code and Support from Teacher
  - APEX Coursework must be completed by Monday after class
  - Grades submitted Tuesday
  - Missing these classes could result in a student not graduating

- **APEX Classes for Original Credit**
  - Deadline to Complete all coursework is April 30, 2020
  - Must pass class to graduate
  - Contact teacher if you need support to complete class (ex. Spanish—Ms. Tamez; Health—Mr. Hargrove)

- **Graduation ARDs** - Be Ready to participate online for those students that may need it.

**Contact Information**

Mrs. Arvie --- Miyoshi.Arvie@houstonisd.org 832-987-2950 (cell)
Mrs. Nixon --- jnixon@houstonisd.org 832-620-8355 (cell)

**College Updates/Information:**

- **TSI:** Don’t worry if you haven’t taken all parts of the required TSI yet. The benchmarks for exemption are a 480 on the SAT EBRW for exemption is reading and writing; 530 on the math to exempt from the math test. Most colleges are going to be figuring out testing solutions, but they haven’t yet. We are committed to offering the TSI at Westbury for free when we can do so safely but we can’t commit to a specific date/time.

- **Financial aid:** Everyone should check their portals. Some of the verification requirements are being waived (or postponed). If you don’t have financial aid in your portal for every
school but HCC, you need to contact the financial aid office directly and find out if you are missing a document. Please send your financial aid letters to us for analyze.

- **Commitment:** Most of the Texas colleges are still asking for commitments by May 1st. Some out of state schools have pushed back that deadline to June 1st, but now is the time to be deciding which college to attend. That is why your financial aid is so important.

- **Orientation:** Many colleges are doing virtual orientations instead of in person sessions this summer. They are still charging, but in some cases the fees can be deferred to your fall bill.

- **Applications:** Many colleges are still accepting applications. Some, including Lamar, have waived application fees.

- **HCC** is providing virtual advising with our regular adviser.

- **Meningitis:** If you got a meningitis shot with us before spring break, Mr. Duran can send you a scanned in shot record for you to upload to your account.

- **Appointments:** We are taking appointments via Microsoft Bookings. You can book a specific time at bit.ly/WestburyAdvising (it is case sensitive). We are also available via email or DM us on twitter. We're available basically any day and Ms. Dew has some weekend availability.

  MS. Dew ------ ldew1@houstonisd.org
  Mr. Duran ------ Mario.duran@houstonisd.org

**Senior Items to Discuss:**

- **Prom** – At this point the Prom we had planned for May will need to be canceled. We hope to have some type of “event” for our seniors once we can move beyond social distancing.

- **Refunds** - Ms. Malone will complete them next week. She submits them to the district. Checks are made out to anyone who is 18 or older and those under 18 the check is made out to the parent. We will send an email prior to mailing them to confirm checks go to the correct address. After we submit, it will take 2+ weeks to get your check from HISD. Your refund will likely be a partial refund as you have already received some items like t-shirts and panoramic pictures. If you purchased a package with a yearbook, you will still get one so you will not have that portion ($55) refunded. You will receive a full $100 refund for the senior trip.

- **Graduation** – We still do not have a plan. We have discussed Virtual Graduation, as a district. It’s on hold now. We want to be able to do the face to face if possible even if it is later in the summer. The Superintendent has talked about doing a survey from the seniors either from the district or as a campus survey. Seniors completing all graduation requirements will still finish on-time. The school year is not extended unless you need summer school.