



March 19, 2020

Dear BHR Students and Families,

I hope you are all well. You have probably heard many times as you've grown up, "I know how you feel" - well rest assured, none of us know how it feels to be a teenager living in the midst of a pandemic. "Social distancing" is not something that I grew up with. For you and for those around you, this is a very new reality. I hope that you are taking it seriously, but also taking the time to connect with family and friends in creative ways. I read a headline yesterday that read: "When the scourge of coronavirus is over, we will be a kinder nation." I certainly hope and pray that is true. As a history teacher, I know that generations are often marked by critical events in their collective psyche - the Great Depression, World Wars I and II, the Civil Rights movement, 9/11 - how each generation chooses to learn and improve from the critical event is up to them. This, likely, will be one of yours.

Earlier this week, Ms. Rossetti posted information through the *Superintendent's Synopsis* - please read this as it includes a lot of important information as we navigate this new normal together. To access this important document, please click here: <https://www.smore.com/9thdu>.

Here are some important highlights for next week:

- Beginning Tuesday, March 24, you will be receiving enrichment and continuation assignments from your teachers in all subject areas. Teachers will be sharing two assignments per week with you. Since we are unable to access the building and our full curriculum, the goal of these assignments is to ensure a "continuation of learning" for each of you.
- If anybody is struggling with wifi/internet access at home, please check out these amazing resources from Comcast: <http://wifi.xfinity.com/>.
- There is no access to the building over the next several weeks. If you have unique circumstances, please reach out to your guidance counselor or an administrator and we will try to help you.
- As you start to do schoolwork and assignments next week, I would urge each of you to reach out to your teachers and counselors whenever you need help or assistance. In our age of technology, communication does not need to stop, even in the midst of social

distancing. Teachers and counselors are ready to help, guide, and support you as we embrace this new challenge.

- If you are struggling in non-academic ways, please know that we still want to be a resource for you. Our guidance counselors, adjustment counselors, and school psychologists will be reaching out to students they normally meet with - do not hesitate to reach out to them if you need help or someone to talk to!
- There have been a lot of questions about April Vacation, athletics, prom, graduation, and other normal spring events. These are good questions, and I know they are concerning to many of you as they are to us. At this time, we do not have enough information to make decisions on any of those future items. As soon as we do, we will communicate this to you.
- If any of you were struggling academically when we suspended normal school operations, I would encourage you to take the next few weeks to dig in to your school work, assignments, and to communicate with your teachers to see how you can improve your grade.
- Give yourself a routine! Believe it or not, we all need routine and consistency in our lives. Your major source of routine has been interrupted. Try to get yourself on a schedule that includes your schoolwork, physical activity, social interaction, and rest.
- Please reach out directly to your teacher if you need help with something. If you need additional support or have general questions, please contact the appropriate administrator:
  - Dr. Bavuso - Academics - [pbavuso@bluehills.org](mailto:pbavuso@bluehills.org)
  - Ms. Sylvia - Vocational - [msylvia@bluehills.org](mailto:msylvia@bluehills.org)
  - Mr. Dimitriou - Special Services - [adimitriou@bluehills.org](mailto:adimitriou@bluehills.org)
  - Mr. Cavanaugh - Student Activities - [tcavanaugh@bluehills.org](mailto:tcavanaugh@bluehills.org)
  - Ms. Poliseno - Co-op - [kpoliseno@bluehills.org](mailto:kpoliseno@bluehills.org)
  - Mr. Zini - Principal - [gzini@bluehills.org](mailto:gzini@bluehills.org)

That is enough for now! Gail Sheehy wrote - "To be tested is good. The challenged life may be the best therapist." Keep persisting through the next several weeks and keep a positive mindset.

Sincerely,

Geoff Zini

Principal