

News for Parents

May 4, 2020

## From the Principal's Desk

Last week, I wrote this for our High School teachers and I thought I would share with you

*Anyone else feel like it's [Groundhog Day](#)? As we enter Week #6 of Distance Learning, it is important we remember that there will be an end to this current reality. We don't know when, but there will be an end! One of the questions I have been asking myself a lot lately is, "what will be different once we return to face-to-face learning"? I keep thinking of the things we do day after day, week after week that we have not often stopped to question in education and how we may take advantage of this disturbance in the routine to make some positive changes. I encourage you to spend some time thinking about what might look different in your practice once everything goes back to "normal". Maybe you want to engage in using more tech tools? Maybe you will prioritize the importance of connection and relationships in your classroom? Maybe you will commit to the next step in your journey of a student-centered classroom? Perhaps you will look at your assessments and whether they are authentic and whether you are looking for higher order thinking skills?*

*This is a great time to start your list of things that will look different once we go back to our regular lives. Both in your educational practice and in your personal life, it would be a waste to spend this much time in this reality without making some positive changes and evolving. I look forward to sharing our lists with each other once we see each other again.*

We hope that you are able to consider a few things that will look different upon our return to how things used to be and that you are able to prioritize the most important things in your life!

Your partners in education,

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## IMPORTANT DISTANCE LEARNING DOCUMENTS

[Communication Flowchart](#)

[Middle/High School Distance Learning Schedule](#)

[Distance Learning Handbook](#)

## ZOOM Q&A SESSION

We will continue with our weekly Zoom session for parents questions and concerns.

You can join at the below link:

*Tuesday May 5th, 8:30 a.m.*

*Join the Zoom meeting through [this link](#)*

## VIDEO FOR SENIORS

Check out this [Commemorative Video](#) of the Class of 2020's life at CNG, put together with many pictures sent by parents. A lot of special moments are compiled here! Created by Ms. Claudia Carvajalino.

## LETTER FOR STUDENTS ABOUT FINAL AP EXAM PREPARATIONS

Please ensure your AP student has taken a look at [this letter](#) to help them be fully prepared for AP exams coming up next week.

## Reminders

### NOTES ABOUT OUR SENIORS

- 1) The last day of classes for seniors will be the regularly scheduled day of May 22nd. They will have no formal final exams.
- 2) More information will be coming for students and parents about Senior Research Projects, Graduation, Senior Awards, and other events as we get closer to the dates
- 3) Please fill out [this survey](#) to help us gather some possible ideas for a modified Graduation ceremony, if we are able to do it.

## AP STUDY DAYS

The decision has been made that we will not be having AP Study Days this year for students for the following reasons:

- Shorter exams should make the exam writing experience less stressful
- Less class time should allow for more time to study
- Less material to study than in previous years
- Teachers have had more time to review material before the exam
- More online resources to help prepare well in advance of the exam.

If a student feels strongly about needing a study day before one of your exams, he or she can follow the regular absence protocols.

## **NO FINAL EXAMS**

We have decided that we will not be having any sort of formal Semester Exams at the end of this semester, whether we are back on campus or still in Distance Learning. Teachers have the option of making the final assessment of the semester a cumulative one, which will appear as a standard summative assessment in a student's grade. Instead of an exam schedule, the regular rotation of classes will continue until June 12th.

## **MINDFULNESS UPDATE**

As you might know, we've been having Mindfulness practice sessions in our school (in the Mindfulness Room) for almost the entire academic year. Due to the present conditions we want to continue that practice virtually, and remind you that everyone in our community is invited to join.

The practice of Mindfulness meditation is one of the best ways to center ourselves, regulate our emotions and develop resilience in challenging times.

We will meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 to 8:20am.

This is the [Google Meet link](#) to access:

We hope to see you there!