

April 27th, 2020

From: Mr. J. Edwards

To: Students in Mr. Edwards' Science classes at HHS

Re: Recent updates and how we will continue with "remote learning"

Hi students,

Last week, announcements were released about some updates and clarifications for grading and the rest of the school year. Those updates were released by state leaders, and our WCPSS district and school leaders are currently working to interpret and implement those updates, and will soon communicate with teachers how we can best do that. As soon as we have a chance to better understand exactly what these updates mean for our school and our classes, teachers will be contacting you with updates.

Since last week, I have received lots of questions from students and families, many of which included questions like "Do I really have to keep doing the online school work?" or "What can I do to change my grade?" First, let me be clear: There is no "new grading system," based on these updates from last week. The major change will simply be that students in grades 9, 10, and 11 will now have the choice of a number/letter grade that will be included in their GPA calculation in the future, or a "Pass/Withdraw" grade that will not impact their GPA. While this change is helpful and important for some students, it largely makes very little difference for many students and definitely does not change the expectations for continuing to participate and engage as best as you are able in the "online learning" phase of our class.

My hope is that all students will continue to participate in the valuable online activities that I am providing for our class and I will continue to provide feedback on the work that is submitted. This is our best chance to continue learning despite the unexpected circumstances of school closure and the real concerns of preventing the further spread and impact of COVID-19.

Mr. Edwards will continue to post updates, assignments, resources, and feedback on our class Google Classroom, and he will continue to be available daily for virtual "office hours." Please take advantage of these opportunities to stay engaged and involved with our school and your own learning!

Soon, we will have more updates and clarifications from school leaders. I will make sure to pass that information along to students and families as soon as I am able. If parents or students have any questions or concerns while we are away from school, please contact Mr. Edwards via email or Remind.

Stay home, stay safe, stay positive!

- Mr. Josh Edwards