

# CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE



Monday, March 30, 2020

Hello Cougar Families,

There is only one more full day remaining in March of 2020, and so much is different at this time than any other that I've experienced in 40+ years of education (I'm including my time as a student :-). I'm writing to you from my office at HPCA where the hallways are silent and the parking lot is empty – far from a normal scene. I would like to start by congratulating you on the superior response rate that you showed in submitting your course requests for next school year, all but 6 high school students submitted the request form - way to go!

Obviously, it's strange right now because some things are missing. Gone is the collegiate basketball tournament that normally dominates the landscape of conversations and viewing activities this time of year; this created 'March Sadness' for many. That season has simply passed. And yet, it's not the passing of the season that has shocked us, because seasons always pass. It's the loss of an expected opportunity that has created a devastating void. Likewise, the emptiness of our campus is a startling reminder of the lost opportunities that we all expected to have at this time within the Cougar Community.

However, great is the hope that I have in our future, for my heart and mind are sustained by a peace that transcends all understanding as promised in Philippians 4:6-7. You have probably seen any people sharing these verses with others as we go through challenging times. I encourage you to read the entirety of Philippians 4 soon, it provides a startling parallel of relevancy for our current circumstances; I have included a few highlights below:

- Verse 1 – Paul addresses a community that he longs to see, and encourages them to stand firm in the Lord.
- Verses 3 & 4 – He sends a text to friends by name and says help each other.
- Verse 4 – One message, but it's stated twice, and it's our theme for this school year, "Rejoice in the Lord!"
- Verses 6 & 7 – Prayer and transcendent peace!
- Verse 8 – A list of excellent items on which to let your mind dwell.
- Verses 10-14 – Message of learning how to be content in all circumstances.
- Verses 15-20 – Thanks for having needed supplies, "And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."
- Concluding verse 23 – "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit."

Thanks again for all of the effort that you put forth during our temporary time of distance learning. I'm praying for all of you, and for the diverse collection of needs we face. I hope you take a special moment each day to pray for the medical community and government leaders as they navigate this pandemic scenario. If you have any questions, or if I can be of assistance in any way, please let me know.

God bless you & Go Cougars!

Mr. Willie Guida  
High School Principal