

# Wednesday Weekly

4/22/2020

## Principal's Note

Good evening.

Since the last time I wrote, we found out schools will remain closed for the remainder of the school year. I'm heartbroken that the seniors will not get to bring closure to their high school careers in the normal way, and saddened that we don't get to interact and learn with our underclassmen until next school year.

Though it is sad, our students have risen to the occasion and been supportive of one another from afar through all of this. I have been deeply moved by the Class of 2020 signatures on "the rock," and even drawn to tears in seeing the field lights turned on for 20 minutes last Friday.

Now that we know there is an end in sight to the Stay-at-Home order, we are beginning to discuss plans for spring events, and will communicate those plans when we know more. Some of those questions will be answered below. The safety and health of our students will take priority in all of the plans we develop, but I intend to do whatever we can to safely honor our students in these unusual times.

As always, feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Best regards,  
Mr. Long

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **Will there be a graduation ceremony? Awards Ceremony?**

We are working to develop a plan for graduation, but it is too early to tell what it will look like, or when it will be at this time? An awards ceremony is not likely, but we are working on alternative plans to honor our academic achievers.

#### **Prom?**

We have not received word yet on what stipulations Knox County will place on large gatherings, so we do not have plans for a Prom yet.

### **Book returns and device returns?**

We do not have a plan yet, but most likely there will be some sort of drive through return process in May. If not May, it could be pushed back until late summer.

### **Yearbook pickup? Senior Supply pickup?**

KCS will provide authorization for when these pickups happen, but a plan is not in place at this time.

### **Student locker clean out?**

A locker clean out day in which students come to the school is not likely. Schools are closed and students cannot be allowed to enter. We will communicate about personal artifacts when we have more information.

## **KCS@Home and Grades**

KCS and your student's teachers have already sent out communication about KCS@Home, so here is a brief summary.

You've heard that students have two options. (1) To allow their grades to stand as of March 12th and accept that grade as the final class average, or (2) to work on assignments provided by the teacher or the school district in an attempt to raise their grade prior to May 18th. Students/families should communicate their choice to each of the teachers before April 29th in the manner which the teacher has requested. If no communication is received, the student's choice will default to the first option. Students will not earn a grade lower than what it was on March 12th, regardless of their choice. All work must be submitted online in the manner requested by the teacher.

## **Nine-Week classes and grades**

Students enrolled in 9-week classes will receive a grade for their Quarter 3 course. The Q3 courses will also offer the opportunity to work on review materials as part of KCS@Home. The Quarter 4 course will not issue grades or provide materials.

Seniors scheduled to take Economics during Q4 will have the option to take it online as a Pass/Fail course, which offers a credit that does not calculate into the overall GPA. Further information will come out this week.

## **Closed Campus**

Due to the continued gatherings of large groups of students and community members on the football field during the Stay-at-Home order, we will lock all campus access gates except for

Monday and Wednesday mornings during food distribution times. As a reminder, all athletic fields are to be used by reservation only through HHS/KCS. We appreciate your cooperation.

## Calculator Resources

Below are some links to download TI calculators if students are in need.

1.) Free 6-month software licenses for PC/MAC for TI-Nspire CX, TI-84 family, TI-30XS/TI-34 Multiview can be found here: <https://education.ti.com/en/resources/online-learning-program>

2.) Free Chromebook App for TI-84 family (expires August 15th):  
<https://education.ti.com/en/resources/online-learning-program>

## Biltmore Field Trip Refunds

Students who paid to attend the Biltmore trip will receive a full refund at the beginning of next school year at the latest. We have yet to hear word if KCS will allow bookkeepers to process refunds before the end of this school year.

## Drivers Permit Information (Updated)

We found out this week that the DMV is not offering driver's permit tests until May 18th, so we will temporarily stop issuing permit forms from the school. This will resume in May.

## TSSAA Announcement

With the Governor's announcement of school closure for the remainder of the school year, all remaining TSSAA events for 2019-20, including all spring sports and the postponed state basketball tournaments, are cancelled. This is an unprecedented time across our state and country, and we do not make this decision lightly. We thank all of the participants, their coaches, administrators, parents, and everyone else who has dedicated a tremendous amount of time, passion, and effort to high school athletics, especially these affected events.

To our senior participants - we thank you for everything you have done for your schools and communities and wish you the very best in your bright futures. This is difficult, but the lessons you've learned and friendships you've made through high school activities will last your lifetime. We look forward to the resumption of high school athletics during the 2020-21 school year, and will continue work on those events at this time. The TSSAA thanks everyone involved for their patience and understanding throughout this process.

Information will be given to member schools regarding summer athletic activities in regards to the sports calendar at a date in the near future.

## Meals & "KCS at Home"

We will continue to serve food from 10-12AM on Monday and Wednesday next week. New "KCS at Home" packets for PreK-8 students will be distributed on Monday and Wednesday next week following the same traffic pattern that was used today.

Any high school student still needing a Chromebook should email Mr. Long at

[spencer.long@knoxschools.org](mailto:spencer.long@knoxschools.org).

## AP Exam Updates

### Exam Dates

- Exams will be given from May 11–22.
- Makeup test dates will be available for each subject from June 1–5.
- Students can take exams at home or in schools, if they reopen.
- Each subject's exam will be taken on the same day at the same time, worldwide.

### Exam Format

- Most exams will have one or two free-response questions, and each question will be timed separately. Students will need to write and submit their responses within the allotted time for each question.
- Students will be able to take exams on any device they have access to—computer, tablet, or smartphone. They'll be able to type and upload their responses or write responses by hand and submit a photo via their cell phones.
- For most subjects, the exams will be 45 minutes long, plus an additional 5 minutes for uploading. Students will need to access the online testing system 30 minutes early to get set up.
- Certain courses—Art and Design: 2D; Art and Design: 3D; Computer Science Principles; Drawing; Research; and Seminar—will use portfolio submissions and will not have a separate online exam. All deadlines for these submissions have been extended to May 26, 2020, 11:59 p.m. ET. Teachers and students may receive separate course-specific communications.
- Students taking world language and culture exams will complete two spoken tasks consistent with free-response questions 3 and 4 on the current AP Exam. Written responses will not be required. We'll provide additional details in the coming weeks to help students prepare.

## Cheerleading Tryouts

All cheer tryouts have been postponed at this time. A new date is still to be determined.



April Senior Memo.pdf

Families of Seniors, please see the Senior Memo from the School Counseling Office.



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195.8 KB

