



Shenandoah Valley Governor's School

49 Homet Road Fishersville, VA 22939 (540) 245-5088 www.svgs.k12.va.us

March 30, 2020

Dear SVGS Students and Families,

Good afternoon. First, I hope you and your families are all well. Second, on behalf of the SVGS staff, we miss our students and you greatly!!!

This has been an extraordinary few weeks that will extend longer out of necessity. I know there are feelings of sadness and loss for many of the activities' students love that are not available, activities they anticipated which will be delayed, possible financial hardship, uncertainty about the immediate future, and now foregoing seeing friends and other extended family in person with today's stay-at-home order. I am genuinely sorry but I am also grateful for everyone's efforts to help maintain their own wellness and public safety in our community through these sacrifices. Please continue to follow the guidance of national, state, and local health officials.

As a reminder, please also be as cognizant of the mental health of you and your family as you are the physical aspects. Tolerating uncertainty can be stressful and cause various degrees of anxiety in everyone. Students should try to maintain structure and routine to their day that they can feel some sense of normalcy and control. The therapeutic nature of fresh air and outdoors activity are well-documented. Click [here](#) for some on-line resources which provide information, virtual activities, and other mental health resources.

Thank you for your patience as we all work together to adjust to life in this quickly changing and complex public health crisis. Hopefully, everyone enjoyed some beautiful spring weather and were able to catch their breath last week.

This week, we do ask that students rejoin us for learning. Our primary focus will be reviewing for AP exams as needed, completing any outstanding make-up assigned prior to March 13 (now due April 6), continuing to read/study/practice teacher recommended text/materials, continuing to work on long-term projects previously assigned, and preparing to successfully complete the school year.

While there are still some unanswered question and details to be determined, we expect to have a formal plan by Friday which should outline the remainder of the school year. SVGS teachers will contact students via CANVAS messages and email about specific things to work on for their course this week. If you have any questions or concerns at anytime, please contact me. We will work through technology or access issues individually.

Again, if we can assist you or your family in anyway, please contact me.

We look forward to reconnecting with students this week and continuing this journey through new waters together. I appreciate and am always reassured by our students' diligence and determination as learners and their compassion and kindness as individuals.

Have a safe, healthy, and productive week.

Sincerely,
Lee Ann Whitesell
Director