



JEFFERSON FOREST HIGH SCHOOL

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

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Dear JFHS Families,

As we all continue working to find a new normal during this unique time, I want to provide you with some updates about the continuity of learning for secondary students in Bedford County Public Schools. Please understand that this is new and uncharted territory for all of us. As a school family, we are determined to prioritize the health, wellness, and learning of our students, and I appreciate your ongoing support and patience as we work to do this in an effective and meaningful way. As our school division has been working to address the need for meal distribution up to this point, we are now prepared to begin sharing more information about ongoing learning opportunities for our students.

Based on guidance from the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), our teachers have worked diligently to identify content that is essential for success in future coursework. Now, teachers are in the process of developing learning opportunities that address this content and minimize gaps in learning. Because our aim is to ensure equitable access to learning for all students, these learning opportunities will be made available in virtual and other formats. Information about these two options, along with other aspects of our continuity of learning plan, is described below.

Virtual Learning Opportunities

For students with internet access, links and access codes will be provided by teachers on **Monday, April 6th**. Continue checking webpages as teachers post updates and additional content. While teachers will be making contact with students and families, students are encouraged to reach out to their teachers via email with any questions related to these learning opportunities. Email addresses can be accessed [here](#). Students taking classes in Edgenuity can continue working to complete the course. All assignments are unlocked and available.

Other Learning Opportunities

For students without internet access at home there are several options. First, free public wifi can be accessed in the parking lots of all [Bedford County Public Libraries](#) and [Bedford County Public Schools](#). If accessing wifi on a BCPS campus, students should utilize their BCPS Chromebook for the strongest connection. It is important that anyone using wifi on a BCPS campus remains in their vehicle. At JFHS the strongest signal is available in the front parking lot of the school. Second, USB flash drives loaded with learning opportunities can be mailed to any student in need. These flash drives are compatible with BCPS Chromebooks. If your child needs a flash drive, please contact Mrs. Kylie Gilleland @ kgilleland@bedford.k12.va.us. Flash drives will be mailed via USPS by the week of **April 20, 2020**. A self-addressed stamped envelope will be included for flash drives to be returned when ready. While teachers will be making contact with students and families, students are encouraged to reach out to their teachers via email with any questions related to these learning opportunities. Students experiencing difficulties with the actual flash drives can seek assistance by contacting their individual teachers or Mrs. Gilleland.

Communication

It is important that students and parents check their email and the school website frequently for ongoing updates and communications. Students should be sure to check their BCPS email accounts as this will be the most common communication method used by teachers. Teachers may also be reaching out via phone, Remind, and other communication platforms.

Grading

Based on guidance from the VDOE, we will be sharing information about grade calculations at a later date. At this point, we know that the learning opportunities described above will not be graded in the traditional sense. Instead, as students make progress, teachers will constantly review their work and provide feedback. It is essential that all students put forth effort on these learning opportunities. Furthermore, students currently failing at this point in the course will be provided with the opportunity to meet course requirements and obtain course credit. Extended learning opportunities for students who do not meet course requirements needed to obtain course credit will be communicated at a later date.

AP, Dual Enrollment, Early College, Career & Technical Education, and Virtual Virginia Courses

If you are a student taking an Advanced Placement (AP) course you will have the opportunity to take the AP test for possible college credit. College Board will be releasing test dates in early April. Teachers will share that information with their students as soon as it becomes available. If you are enrolled in a dual enrollment course, we are awaiting information from Central Virginia Community College (CVCC) to guide schools on what student requirements may need to be completed for the college credit to be earned. All early college students are completing their semester in their college courses online in order to earn their associate's degree. Currently, we are working with credentialing and licensing agencies to ensure that opportunities for testing will be made available based on the direction given to BCPS from each governing agency (i.e. cosmetology, nurse assistant, pharmacy tech). All Virtual Virginia course instruction is complete as of March 13, 2020. School Counselors will be in touch with students and parents concerning grade report updates.

SOL Tests and Verified Credits

The Spring 2020 administration of the Standards of Learning (SOL) test has been canceled. Therefore, the VDOE has given flexibility with students earning verified credits (completing the course and passing the aligned SOL assessment). Students are not required to take SOL assessments. Students currently in a course eligible for a verified credit can earn a locally verified credit when they successfully complete the course. Students may opt to take the SOL test for a completed course at a later date, but we are not recommending that since we have the ability to award locally verified credits to the school closure.

In closing, I want to once again say thank you for your ongoing patience and support. I know that new experiences such as this create anxiety, confusion, and frustration. I want you to know that our school family remains fully engaged and committed to doing what is best for our students. We will be here each step of the way as we navigate this time together. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or your child's teacher(s) if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Brian Wilson

Principal

Jefferson Forest High School