Kent Island High School Families,

As you know, we will be teaching and learning in a virtual model for our first semester. Although we continue to finalize the plans for the upcoming year, we wanted to keep you as updated as possible. Changes occur daily, so we may be sending you more emails than normal!

**Student Laptops**

We were notified yesterday that all student laptops must be logged into the QACPS’s network in order to maintain Windows activation. Windows will be deactivated after 180 days of not logging in to the QACPS network. So, if your student has not logged on to our network, which is only possible on campus, Windows activation will expire on **Tuesday, September 8**. I have listed below the locations that have been suggested for logging in. Once you arrive at one of these locations, have your student log in to the network and allow the computer to fully operate - which may take a few minutes. Once you have successfully logged in, you will be good for another 180 days.

**Examples of areas you can connect to our network (connect to "MAC"):**

- Sudlersville Middle School parking lot
- Church Hill Elementary bus loop or parking lot
- Queen Anne’s County High School (park near the portables or front parking lot)
- Grasonville Elementary front parking lot
- Kent Island High School (park next to the curb on the bus loop / football stadium side)

Please continue to let us know if your laptop is in need of repair. Student laptops must be ready to go on Day 1!

**We Need Your Textbooks!!! AND.... We Have Your Yearbooks!**

- If you have not returned your supplies (textbooks, calculators, etc.), please bring them to the Main Campus Monday-Thursday from 7:30 - 3:00 pm.
- If you purchased a yearbook last year, they can be picked up from the Main Campus during the same hours.

**Virtual Learning**

As we enter a much more structured and robust virtual learning semester, I have highlighted the below information pertaining to the Learning Management System and types of instruction that our students will experience.
Schoology – QACPS has purchased a new Learning Management System (LMS). Schoology will be the place where you and our students will experience their virtual classrooms including instruction by their teachers (synchronous and asynchronous), assignments, tests, grades, and attendance. The district is preparing training for staff in the coming weeks, and has also indicated that they will be providing training for families and students as well. It will be the expectation that all students will be in direct contact with each of their teachers every day.

Synchronous Learning - Synchronous learning requires teachers and students to be online at the same time. During this time, teachers can provide direct instruction and facilitate class discussions.

Asynchronous Learning - Asynchronous learning allows students to access course material on their own schedule. Teachers will post learning materials to Schoology, which can be accessed by students at any time as long as assignments are completed by established due dates.

What we know about our virtual learning environment:

- There will be a daily schedule that our staff and students will be expected to follow. **We’ve attached the sample schedule that was presented to the QACBOE on Wednesday, July 22nd.**
- There will be clear expectations for all stakeholders. **We’ve attached the sample expectations that were presented to the QACBOE on Wednesday, July 22nd.**
- All grades will count towards a student’s final course grade. Additional information will be shared soon pertaining to the weighting of progress assessments, mastery assessments, and final exams.
- Attendance will be taken daily for each course. Students will be expected to sign in to Schoology and participate in all classes every day.

What we are working on:

- Finalizing student schedules for 2020-2021. **Student schedules will be sent out during the week of August 3rd.** Most schedules are complete, though counselors are continuing to finalize student schedules. If you have any questions or concerns regarding schedules, please contact your school counselor.
- Finalizing the Kent Island High School Virtual Learning Schedule for Students and Staff.
- Developing plans for “Back to School/Open House” activities.
- Developing a Virtual Learning Student and Staff Handbook.
- Creating a plan to distribute new materials including incoming 9th grade laptops for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Improving our strategies to meet the needs of our Special Education/504/English Language Learners during virtual learning.
• Developing plans for extracurricular activities (athletics, clubs, theatre, etc.) during virtual learning.

We will face challenges as we all enter this new learning environment. I pledge to keep you as informed as possible and your feedback and suggestions will be more important than ever. Together, we will make the most of this situation and properly prepare our students for their next steps. We will provide more information and updates soon.

John R. Schrecongost

Schedule and Expectations