

## **Moving Forward: At-Home Digital Learning for Solon High School Students Continuing April 6**

As we communicated over spring break, the week of April 6 begins our next phase of at-home learning for Solon students. This message contains several important pieces of information to ensure your SHS student can access all necessary learning materials, lessons, assignments and assessments.

We are maintaining learning for students, but this will not be an exact replica of the day they experienced at school. All this week, March 30 – April 3, SHS students will be continuing their schoolwork through their teachers' Google Classrooms as announced at the beginning of the mandated school closure. They will continue to do so after April 6.

### **Solon High School Remote Learning**

Solon High School students are well positioned for digital learning. They should continue to log in to the Google Classroom for each of their class periods every school day. SHS students will see lessons daily, including videos, Powerpoint and Google Slides presentations, readings and assignments. In some instances, our subject-area faculty teams are collaborating on lessons and presentations, so students may not see or hear their own teacher delivering a particular lesson, but rather a different teacher on the team. All assignments will be submitted through Google Classroom. Students will also continue to see projects assigned in their classes and teachers will be providing "work days" for those projects. Additionally, teachers will share opportunities for lessons and discussions via Google Hangouts Meet and Zoom.

Although none of us could have imagined a high school quarter like this one, some things will remain constant for our students even though they are learning at home. SHS students will still be earning important grades in all of their classes and will be using a variety of easily accessible and familiar assessment platforms, including Edulastic, Google Forms and AP Classroom. Our subject-area teams will continue using the same SHS testing schedule students are familiar with to avoid as much overlap as possible. Testing windows will remain open for 24 hours.

Colleges and universities have communicated to us that they understand the unique challenges high school students are facing this year. At the same time, final transcripts for students will still matter in the college application and acceptance process even if this quarter does have a figurative asterisk attached. Our SHS teachers are carefully planning together to be sure students are getting lessons designed to maximize their learning in this new digital and remote educational environment.

If your child has difficulty accessing a Google Classroom or any of the necessary learning tools, please have him or her contact the teacher directly right away. A Google Classroom tutorial is posted below for additional help if needed.

Parent/Student Tutorial to Enter Google Classroom:

<https://www.solonschools.org/cms/lib/OH01814653/Centricity/Domain/4/Classroom.pdf>

### **AP Classes**

We are getting updates from the College Board just as you are if your child is taking an Advanced Placement class. We do know that the College Board plans at-home testing this spring. We are looking for more clarity and specificity regarding the testing and expectations. As soon as we know more, we will communicate that with you right away. In the meantime, our teachers will be working tirelessly over the next several weeks to be sure students are fully prepared for the AP exams.

For students, who still need to pay for their AP exams, payment should be mailed to the school. Checks should be made out to Solon Board of Education (please note AP exam and student name on the memo line) and sent to Solon High School, 33600 Inwood Road, Solon, Ohio 44139 ATTN: Bookstore/AP. If your student is unsure about the amount still owed, please contact Mrs. Schultz in the Bookstore at [carolschultz@solonboe.org](mailto:carolschultz@solonboe.org).

## **Connecting Teachers and Students – Office Hours and Feedback**

At this time of year especially, SHS is typically a hub of activity. We miss the sounds of our hallways during the passing times between classes. We hope our students will continue to take a breath between “classes” while they are learning at home and even choose their own playlists to add music to their virtual passing times.

An important component of our at-home instructional plan is providing opportunities for our students to connect with their teachers. If students need help with assignments, understanding concepts or something is getting in the way of their daily learning, they should contact their teachers right away. This includes if a student is ill. Teachers are available any time via email and especially during the new staff virtual office hours, which will begin April 6. Teachers will provide feedback on students’ work through Google Classroom.

Solon High School Teacher and Staff Office Hours (beginning April 6) for each day school is in session:

Health/PE:	8 a.m. – 10 a.m.
English:	8 a.m. – 10 a.m.
Social Studies:	9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
World Language:	9 a.m. – 11 a.m.
Math:	11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Fine Arts:	11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Science:	Noon – 2 p.m.
Counseling:	Noon – 2 p.m.
Special Education:	Two hours daily per interventionist as communicated by the interventionist to the student/parent
Administrators:	8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Our SHS teachers and other school staff members continue to be available via email or Google Classroom to respond to questions from students (and parents). Families can expect a reply within 24 hours.

## **Senior Project**

Due to the Governor’s stay-at-home order impacting schools and non-essential businesses extending through at least May 1, Solon High School students will not participate in senior project this year. We

know this is disappointing for students, but there is no feasible way to create a safe on-site senior project experience this year. This means the last day of classes for all members of the senior class will be May 19.

## **Technology Access at Home**

Please be sure to contact me immediately if you do not have Internet access at home so the school can put a plan in place for your child's continued learning remotely.

Chromebook exchange/repair will continue on Mondays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. each week at Arthur Road School. Please have your child complete the Chromebook Exchange/Repair form prior to heading over to Arthur Road. Public health recommended social distancing measures will be in place for the exchange.

Chromebook Exchange/Repair form: <https://forms.gle/gVALui2qjnbKBvw66>

## **Planned Events**

Solon High School is a vibrant school community characterized by many participation events that bring us all together. We know our students and families have questions about cancellations and rescheduling of these important events, including our senior events. The Governor today extended the mandated school closure through May 1. That still leaves unclear the full length of the extended closure and the subsequent continuation of critical social distancing. Rest assured that our SHS team is doing everything possible to fully explore alternative options. However, many unknowns still remain and details such as speculative dates and plans cannot be shared until we have a better understanding of how long and how we will be practicing social distancing in the coming weeks and months. We will let you know directly as any additional events or programs are cancelled due to the Governor's stay-at-home order.

Spring sports are no exception. Mr. McQuaide and I have been in constant contact with the Ohio High School Athletic Association. There is no definitive information about the future of spring athletics at this time. As a reminder, SHS student athletes are not to be meeting to train, practice or work out together in accordance with public health guidelines for social distancing.

## **Social Distancing**

Social distancing means physical distancing. Our Solon High School students should not be congregating even in small groups. The high school has received messages that some students are not complying with these public health protocols. We urge you to reinforce with your child the critical importance of adhering to the distancing requirements. Every one of us is part of the Ohio together movement to blunt the spread and impact of COVID-19 in our state and in our community. Everyone at Solon High School went into education to be with students. Being physically separated from the school environment is difficult for us as well. But we all need to do whatever we can to stay home unless performing an essential task or service and keep ourselves and others more vulnerable in our community as healthy as possible. This is the time

high school students can learn that actions as an individual and as part of a collective do matter and make a difference.

As we at Solon High School have emphasized all year, we are Stronger Together. We will keep in continual contact with you and provide regular updates. If you have questions or concerns, please be sure to contact me at [erinshort@solonboe.org](mailto:erinshort@solonboe.org).

Wishing you all good health,

Erin Short, Solon High School Principal