

March 20, 2020

COVID-19/Coronavirus Community Update

Dear Families,

Online learning has gone remarkably smoothly so far, with near-perfect attendance each day. Many faculty are having face-to-face conversations with their entire class and small groups using Google Meet. Other tech tools have included OneNote, AP Classroom, Gimkit, Venngage and document cameras. Most of all, classes are continuing the timeless work of critical thinking and analysis in this new format. Kudos to the students for their eagerness, engagement and good humor during this transition!

We have gotten overwhelmingly positive feedback on our launch of the C and D blocks online:

“Kind of weird at first, but overall, it’s been fine.”

“I think it’s great and really interesting to see how people feel comfortable at home.”

“It’s way more relaxed and casual than normal school. It’s also funny to see your teachers at home!”

“I think it’s a pretty innovative solution.”

Keeping our students connected, supported and actively learning are our most important priorities. We will continue online learning with Block D on Monday, March 30, and continue the C-D schedule until further notice, very possibly through the end of the school year. We will begin to integrate art and PE into students' days that week and look forward to imaginative Community Blocks and Morning Meetings.

For our students enrolled in AP classes, the College Board just this morning announced significant changes to the format and content of the 2020 Advanced Placement exam, available on the [College Board website](#). AP teachers will be communicating this information directly with students and supporting them as they continue their preparation this spring.

The Prom, scheduled for April 4, will be postponed, hopefully to be rescheduled on a date to be determined.

I would like to thank the faculty, administration and staff for their ongoing courage, creativity and good will. I'll ride the rapids with you folks any time.

Each morning, Molly and I FaceTime with our son, Rob '03, and our granddaughter, Noa. We've gotten the three part harmony of Do Re Mi down pat! It's family unity, just one of many outposts of Prep family unity.

Prep stays tight, Prep for Life, transcending time and space.

Have a great home holiday with your families.

Take care of yourselves,

Peter Bachmann
Headmaster