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Good Afternoon DHS Community:

I hope that this letter finds you healthy as we begin our Spring Break. In this unprecedented time, it is imperative that we all look out for and support one another. I wish to thank each and every one of you for supporting our teachers and ensuring that your children are taking care of their responsibilities at home. In just a matter of days, so much has been added to your plate. Please know you are not in this alone. If you need anything during this time, I am an email away. Our teachers are also ready and willing to help.

Please know that during this difficult time, there is no expectation of perfection. Our staff has worked to give you resources to help create some normalcy for your children, but we most definitely do not expect you to do it all. You have so many other responsibilities you are trying to juggle.

As you read in the Superintendent's letter yesterday afternoon, we have been preparing for Phase II of our Remote Learning Plan which will begin on **April 20, 2020**. Phase I allowed students and teachers to transition to the online learning platform and develop a routine. During this time, we deemed it appropriate for students to be graded on a pass/fail basis.

Instruction

As we enter Phase II, remote online instruction will continue in the manner in which it has been delivered; however, numerical grades will now be assigned. Your child should expect to complete thirty(30) minutes of work for each subject, each day. However, each content-area teacher will only assign and grade two assignments each week. Some assignments may span several days; however, each day they do have responsibilities for each course of study. If you have any technology concerns, we have compiled a [Technology FAQ for Parents and Students](#) to support you.

Grading

Final Exams, Tests, and the New Jersey Student Learning Assessments have been cancelled for the 2019-2020 school year.

Advanced Placement exams will still be taken remotely beginning on May 11th and ending on May 22nd. If your child is enrolled in an AP course and has signed-up to take the exam, your child's teacher will have more information about the testing.

Final grades will now be calculated with each marking period accounting for 25% of the final grade. With the number of school days that have already been completed remotely, we did not feel that final exams would be appropriate or fair under these conditions.

To provide further explanation to the Superintendent's message, should your child complete all of the work in a timely manner, his/her grade will not be lowered from the average of the first three marking periods. However, if your child does not complete work, his/her grade will be affected in a negative manner.

Finally, please know that you have got this! Each of you have raised amazing young adults. You have taught them so many things over the years. Just take time to enjoy your children, have fun with them, and love them. They will remember that for the rest of their lives. We will get through this. Again, if you need anything at all, please do not hesitate to reach out.

The faculty decided to send a message to the students. [HERE](#) is the presentation. Please share it with your child!

With Bear Pride and Spirit,

Daniel S. Finkle

Principal