

March 27, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

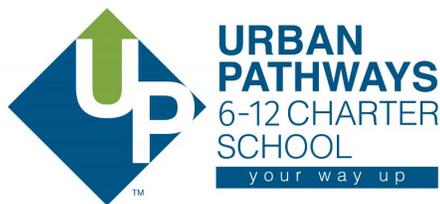
Let me begin by saying how much we miss ALL of our 320 students. The administration is concerned for our students' health and well-being, as well as that of our UPCS families. Although none of us has experienced a pandemic before, the UPCS 6-12 family of students, educators and community leaders, along with all of our stakeholders, has quickly risen to the occasion.

Per Governor Wolf's declaration, UPCS will be closed until April 6th and will include a cancellation of ALL extra curricular activities. The absolute earliest students can return to school is April 9th. April 7th and 8th are to be teacher work days. As of right now, our plan is for April 9th to be considered a make-up day and students will be provided online assignments for April 6th - 9th. Spring Break will be April 10th - 13th. Classes for students would resume April 14th. This is subject to change.

There are still a lot of unanswered questions at this time, and we will provide answers as we receive them. Many people are asking about the prom and graduation. Right now, nothing has been cancelled and we will wait until we get more information as we get closer to these dates.

During this pandemic, UPCS 6-12 is bringing everyone's strengths together to best educate your child. The 3rd quarter grading period ends Friday, March 27th. Students have been encouraged throughout the past two weeks to turn in missing work and increase their 3rd quarter grades.

Active Online Instruction begins Monday, March 30th. The 4th quarter will start Monday, March 30th. **For daily attendance, each teacher of a core class will post a quick daily warm-up on Google Classroom before 9:00am. To be marked "present" for school, your child must complete the warm-up before 3:00pm. Core teachers will record attendance in MMS at 3:00 each day.**



Your child will communicate with his/her teachers daily and receive daily instruction, homework and assessments. We are asking students with internet access to use Google Classroom to access all work. There is a link on our website that guides parents in the use of Google Classroom. For other applications, login procedures will be provided by teachers as necessary. Teachers will be actively engaged throughout the new “normal” of educating your child, and we ask for patience and understanding just as we will do the same for your child. **Teachers will continue to provide graded online instruction and assignments via Google Classroom until further notice.**

Comcast is providing free internet during the pandemic, and we hope that all families will be able to take advantage of that opportunity. See the link on our website for more information about how to get free internet. You can also access Google classroom via PS4 or Xbox. For those who are not able to make this work, please contact Ms. Conner for grades 6-8 and Mrs. Homich for grades 9-12. They can work with you on alternate assignments.

I know this situation has been very frustrating for everyone. In all the decisions that we have made, safety of the students and staff has taken priority. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. The best way to reach all of us is by email, as we work remotely each school day. All teacher and staff emails can be found on the UPCS 6-12 website by clicking the “directory” link at the bottom main page. Teachers also have daily office hours:

10-10:30	English
10:30-11	Math
11-11:30	Science
11:30-12	Social Studies
12-12:30	Spanish, Art and Music
12:30-1	Business and Phys Ed

Stay safe! We hope to see you soon!

Sincerely,

Kathleen A. Garland, Principal