



Todd Herber, Principal

Park High School

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Message from Principal Herber

September 11, 2020

Virtual Open House-Tuesday, September 15:

We are excited to try a new format for our families to get to know our teachers and staff at Park High School. On Tuesday, families will be sent a link via the Black Board Connects messaging system to access the Park High School Virtual Open House Website. It will be organized by staff name. Families will be able to locate their student's teacher, select their name and be taken to a brief pre-recorded presentation about the teacher and the course. Presentations are approximately five minutes in length. All courses will be represented, and families will be able to access these recorded presentations through-out the year. Important information about courses, standards, expectations, and teacher contact information will be included.

SoWashCo Online Students:

Due to capacity limitations, students taking online classes are encouraged to work off campus during their SoWashCo online course period. Parents/guardians who prefer that their student remain on campus for the online class please email Sarah Scullin Stokes at sscullin@sowashco.org. If students have not yet completed the [SoWashCo Online Student Planning form](#) (which was shared by the online teacher in Schoology) please do so now.

All Students may receive breakfast and lunch at No Cost

- Check out this link for information about this program [CLICK HERE FOR INFORMATION](#)

Important College Entrance Testing Dates:

- New dates have been established for the fall PreACT, Practice ACT, PSAT and the ACT that was originally postponed in the spring. Only students taking the tests will attend school in person on those days.

Tuesday, Oct. 6

- **Grade 12 Students**

All grade 12 students will have the opportunity to participate in the ACT Plus Writing test on Tuesday, Oct. 6 after the test in April 2020 was postponed due to COVID-19. This test will be offered at no cost to families. Only high school students participating in the test will be attending school in person.

- **Grades 9, 10 and 11**

On Tuesday, Oct. 6 all students in grades 9, 10, and 11 will learn from home as students in grade 12 report to school to take the ACT Plus Writing test. Academic expectations, assignments and due dates will be shared with students by their teachers before Oct. 6.

Wednesday, Oct. 14

- **Grades 10 and 11**

Students in grades 10 and 11 will have the opportunity to participate in the PreACT, Practice ACT or PSAT on Wednesday, Oct. 14. This test will be offered at no cost to families. Only high school students participating in the test will be attending school in-person.

- **Grades 9 and 12**

On Wednesday, Oct. 14 all students in grades 9 and 12 will learn from home as students in grades 10 and 11 report to school to take the PreACT, Practice ACT or PSAT. Academic expectations, assignments and due dates will be shared with students by their teachers before Oct. 14.

- **PHS families can expect more specific details about these dates in the next couple of weeks.**

Information Regarding Remote Teachers:

The first couple of days in our hybrid learning model has been successful and we will continue to learn and adjust as we proceed forward into this school year.

I also wanted to provide some clarity to concerns and rumors about how classes are being taught in our school. In limited circumstances, some teachers may be teaching an in-person class remotely. This is a required accommodation for the personal health and safety of some of our teachers. Under the Governor's Safe Learning Order (Executive Order 20-82) "if a staff member is medically at-risk for complications as a result of COVID-19 or has members of their household who are at-risk, the school district must allow them to work from home to the extent possible."

In each of these situations, the teacher is connected via live video conference during the entire class period. Class supervision is provided by licensed teachers, counselors or administrators.

This process allows our subject experts to continue providing instruction for the classes that students signed up for rather than hiring a substitute teacher or canceling the class altogether. In addition, this format provided students more opportunities to select from a variety of elective classes.

I'm hopeful that you can appreciate the adjustments we have made to ensure our teachers and staff remains healthy. Our teachers will go above and beyond to support your student this year, as they always have.

I ask for your patience as we navigate this unique school year together.

Sincerely,

Todd Herber
Principal
South Washington County Schools
Park High School