



Chatham Middle School
11650 US Highway 29 North
Chatham, Virginia 24531
Phone: (434) 432-2169 / Fax: (434) 432-2842



April 8, 2020

Dear Cavalier Students and Parents:

Cavaliers, these are challenging and changing times. I truly hope that this letter finds you and your family healthy and happy.

Our teachers and staff have been working together to create some fun and exciting learning opportunities for you and your family to use while at home. Parents, these activities have been designed to be engaging, real-world relevant, low or zero technology required, and to draw upon students' learning goals for the school year. Activities are presented in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, physical education, and enrichment areas. We are asking students regardless of their schedule when school closed, to participate in all content areas daily. All activities should be able to be completed in 2½ - 3½ hours daily. Students who have online access are encouraged to post images of their projects online through the YouUplift platform on the CMS website.

The superintendent recently sent out information regarding grade calculations. To summarize, grades for students that had passing grades in his or her classes will be finalized as of March 13, 2020. If a student was failing one or more classes when school closed on March 13th, his or her teacher will be in touch with your family directly to set parameters for activities that can be completed in order to raise a failing grade to passing prior to the end of the school year. One final set of report cards will be mailed out to homes after the official conclusion of the school year May 21, 2020.

The packets that were provided to students prior to the closure or immediately following the closure will not be collected or turned into the school for grading. As teachers and many staff members are working from home due to health concerns, we feel this is best for our school.

Teachers will be reaching out and connecting with students on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. This will involve a variety of platforms in order to assure that we are reaching all students (Zoom, Google Hangouts, Gmail, Remind, Google Classroom, telephone calls, etc.). School counselors will also be establishing office hours so that students or parents with questions or concerns can reach out if needed. You can find these hours and zoom links on page 2 of this letter for reference.

At this time, we do not have a process in place to safely and securely collect items from student lockers and distribute the items back to students. This also includes buddy pictures, yearbooks, etc. We also do not have a process for collecting textbooks, library books, and calculators (Algebra) from students that are outstanding. Our school board office level directors are attempting to develop a protocol for this to take place at a later date. For now, we ask for parents to locate any outstanding items that a student will need to return and keep them in a central location at your home. We appreciate your patience and will let you know when we are ready to begin addressing this need.



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Food distribution will continue on Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Chatham Middle School through the car rider line. Families are reminded that the PCS students must be present in the vehicle in order for food to be received.

Cavaliers, during this time, please take care of yourselves and your families. Our phenomenal staff has also developed a Family Wellness Bingo that will provide activities and opportunities that we hope you will enjoy engaging in together. Please take some photos and share with us through the YouUplift platform found on CMS website under Positive Submissions.

In closing, while this is definitely not the way that we wanted to end our school year with our beloved Cavaliers, your safety and wellbeing is always our primary concern. Please remember that our Cavaliers are loved, missed, and prayed for daily by an AMAZING group of faculty and staff at Chatham Middle School.

Thank you for all of your patience and continued support throughout this school year!

We can't wait to see you all again soon.

Sincerely,

Julia Boles

Julia W. Boles, Ed. S.
Principal

P.S. Unfortunately, due to health concerns, I am working from home during this time. However, parents are welcome to use my email address (julia.boles@pcs.k12.va.us) to contact me with any concerns.

School Counseling Office Hours:

8th Grade office hours - each Monday from 9:30am-11:30am
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/579335882>
Password: 479939

7th Grade office hours - each Tuesday from 1:00pm - 3:00pm
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/139798559>
Password: 506079

6th Grade office hours - each Wednesday from 9:30am - 11:30am
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/947417647>
Password: 724992