

March 24, 2020

Dear Vanguard Classical School Families:

I would like to take this opportunity to give Vanguard Classical School (VCS) families a midweek status update. Again, general VCS community safety is of the utmost importance to us and remains our primary concern when making educational decisions. We also continue to work in conjunction with Aurora Public Schools (APS), and are still developing our own unique VCS Remote Learning Plan for all 1100+ VCS East and West students.

Over the first week of Spring Break, your VCS leadership team was hard at work developing the structure of our soon-to-be unveiled Remote Learning Plan. To clarify, a remote learning plan will not necessarily be a virtual learning plan for all students. The major elements of this plan were shared with our teaching staff yesterday to allow them over a week to prepare and organize. VCS teaching staff will be spending the remainder of this week developing content-creative educational opportunities for students at every grade level at both VCS campuses. We anticipate that our VCS remote educational plan will be finalized internally by this Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, and similar to other schools in APS, will be rolled out to students on Tuesday, March 31st.

### **Technology**

VCS is currently able to provide school-issued Chromebooks for families with students in grades 9-12 and students who are receiving special education services. These students are required to have a device which can access technology and the internet (tablet, laptop, computer, chromebook, etc.) in order to meet graduation requirements and/or receive legally mandated special education services as outlined in their IEP. Again, these devices are available **only** to students in grades 9-12 and students receiving special education services who **do not** already have a computer at home.

Access to the internet will be required for VCS East students in grades 9-12 and VCS East and West students who are receiving special education services. VCS will not be able to provide internet connections. However, Comcast has offered two months of free internet to families who qualify at <https://www.internetessentials.com/covid19>. Use the link at the top of that website to access languages other than English.

Chromebooks will be distributed **only** to students in grades 9-12 and students receiving special education services who **do not** already have a computer at home on **Friday, March 27th from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at the East Campus and 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm at the West Campus**. This will allow families enough time to access WIFI or internet connectivity over the weekend and Monday. If you have questions and need help feel free to contact us at [info@vanguardclassical.org](mailto:info@vanguardclassical.org).

### **Mental Health Supports**

If you or your student needs urgent counseling support during the extended Spring Break, call Colorado Crisis Services at 844-493-TALK (8255), or text "Talk" to 38255. This service is available seven days a



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week, 24 hours a day. Starting Monday, March 30, families can contact their school's mental health team on weekdays from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm. Additional resources will be added to the VCS website.

### **Medication Pick-Up**

If you need to pick up your student's medication at the school, you can pick up medication on Friday, **March 27th from 8:00 am - 12:00 pm at Vanguard East and 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Vanguard West.**

### **Upcoming Board Meeting**

The VCS Leadership Team will present the collective Remote Learning Plans for both our East and West campuses to the VCS Board of Directors at our upcoming virtual board meeting Thursday, March 26th at 6:30 pm. Rather than hold an in-person board meeting, the VCS Board of Directors will meet through a video conference call. This conference call will be live streamed through Facebook. You can connect with Vanguard on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/vanguardclassical](http://www.facebook.com/vanguardclassical). Please submit your questions and comments by 4:00 pm Thursday, March 26th to [info@vanguardclassical.org](mailto:info@vanguardclassical.org).

These are certainly unprecedented times and unprecedented times call for extraordinary and creative measures. Our VCS teachers and staff look forward to providing just that, a worthy educational opportunity during this unique time. And of course, we miss you and look forward next week to re-establishing contact between our dedicated teachers and wonderful students.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding.

Practice Social Distancing and Stay Safe!

Jay Cerny, Ed.S.  
Executive Director, Vanguard Classical School

Emily Van Luit  
K-5 Principal, VCS East

Angela Schendel Keedy  
6-12 Principal, VCS East

Terry Glen  
Principal, VCS West

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