

Letter of Explanation of My Course of Action in response to COVID-19

Dear Students and Families-

First, I want to let my students know that your well-being is my greatest concern. As a father, I understand completely how the circumstances we all find ourselves in can lead to confusion, frustration, uncertainty, fear, and disappointment. I feel fortunate that I was able to spend time with each of my classes discussing the implications of the pandemic openly and honestly prior to the cancellation of school.

I want to re-emphasize that young people are very unlikely to become infected and if they do become infected it is an even more remote possibility that the illness will be serious. That being said, I know you are all experiencing anxiety about grades, assignments, standardized tests, athletic seasons, college visitations, AP tests, scholarship applications and interviews, and college admissions decisions. That is a lot to have to deal with at your age.

I will proceed with our courses via our class Moodles which fortunately I have been using on a routine basis. You should follow the calendar on the Moodle and perform the tasks that are listed for that date. I am empathetic to the fact that your personal lives may be disrupted and therefore there will be no hard deadlines to submit required assignments or assessments; rather, I will allow you to manage your own time and situation as you deem best provided you understand that by the time we get back together everything should be completed and submitted.

I will be providing you with textbook reading assignments with questions, problem sets, video clips, POGIL activities, virtual labs, AP Classroom for the AP courses, Albert.io activities and question banks, short video clips of direct instruction and explanation, and if necessary I will film demonstrations and lab activities and provide you with the data to complete Data Analysis and Conclusions as part of a lab activity.

As always, I will attempt to guide your instruction and assess your understanding with compassion, recognition of individual differences and circumstances, and flexibility as we as individuals, families, and a nation confront a rapidly evolving situation.

I am confident in my abilities to lead you through this unexpected challenge and more than anything I am confident in your abilities as students. I expect that you will muster the courage and discipline to move your educations forward, support your families, and be helpful members of our community.

I have enjoyed each and every day that I have spent with you this year and will miss our daily interactions immensely- it nourishes my soul. We will get through this and pick up where we left off. We are all disappointed, but we are up for the challenge. Please email me with any questions that you have and I will try to get back to you as quickly as I can.

Dedicated to your success,

Mr. Dooner