



Parkway Christian School

Challenging Minds ♦ Capturing Hearts ♦ Cultivating Gifts

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Dear Parkway Community,

In light of all that has been happening in the last 48 hours, Parkway Administration would like to take a moment to extend our sincere thanks to all in our community. We are blessed to have a staff who are taking on all of the challenges associated with distance/virtual learning in stride and with positive attitudes. They are truly amazing! In addition, the words of encouragement and support from our parents have been nothing less than a beautiful representation of the body of Christ.

In the two weeks prior to closure, we spent our MS/HS chapel time focused on mental health and the reality of the battle that wages for our minds. Three weeks of no school and strongly advised social distancing can equate to isolation for many. We will do our best to combat the feelings that may arise with purposeful face-to-face (though via a screen) communication, via recordings as well as the availability for live interaction. More than that, it is imperative to consume and reflect on the Word of the Lord. In Philippians 4:4-9 (ESV), Paul states,

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

As we enter new territory, please know that we are all part of the Parkway Community and it is our desire to support one another in both spiritual and practical ways. It has overwhelmed our hearts to see members of our community making themselves available for childcare or to support the physical needs of another. God has joined us together and with His strength, we will walk through this with grace and peace.

Continuity of Learning

As we have stated, the staff is working hard to prepare for a change of delivery for student learning. We are confident that there are many questions surrounding what this will look like for you and your student(s). Specific information will be forthcoming, but for now, here are some general expectations:

- **PreK3 and PreK4** will receive learning packets and daily interactive videos from their teachers
- **Kindergarten and 1st** grade students will receive learning packets, which will be supported through familiar educational apps like Freckle and Spelling City, along with daily interactive videos from their teachers

- **2nd through 5th** grade students will complete their learning through a combination of learning packets, short instructional videos from their teacher and familiar educational apps like Freckle and Spelling City, in addition to, daily opportunities to connect with their teachers via live video conferencing
- **MS/HS** students will receive short instructional videos from their teachers and continue to use Google Classroom to complete associated assignments with available office hours for teachers to connect with students via live video conferencing
- **Specials/Elective** teachers are also working on creative ways to interact with their students across all grade levels

We understand that students may or may not be in a situation where they can spend 6-8 hours completing their learning each day. Some students may be the primary caregiver for younger siblings while others may be at a grandparent's or neighbor's house. With that understanding, staff are working hard to focus on quality, not quantity, as well as the imperative skills and information needed to provide a smooth transition back into the classroom after the closure is suspended.

The most important thing to remember during this time is communication. If you or your student(s) have concerns with the time commitment expectation, please communicate with the appropriate teacher or dean so that we can work with you to find a solution. We do not want to have any student or family struggle through this season.

As a reminder, if you have not done so already, it is imperative that parents take a moment to complete this [survey](#) to let us know if your student has access to the internet from home.

Event Updates

Parkway has two trips scheduled in the coming weeks; our senior trip to Florida and our eighth grade trip to Washington D.C. Parkway is in communication with our D.C. travel agency. We expect to have additional information early next week and will send updates as soon as we have them.

At this time, the School Board has not restricted our plans for the senior trip to Florida. We will continue to monitor CDC recommendations and notify those families affected should there be any change.

In the coming weeks, there were several meetings or events scheduled which are now canceled in alignment with the school closure. This includes:

- All sports activities for all levels including EL Volleyball
- All after school tutoring including NHS and NJHS
- All theatre rehearsals for 101 Dalmations
- March 16th, 9th-11th Parent Meeting/Junior Parent Meeting
 - We are looking into providing this information in an online manner
- March 21st, Weight-a-thon fundraiser
- March 23rd, 5th Grade Parent Meeting
- March 28th, SAT Practice Test
- April 4th, AP Lang Practice Test

HS Testing information

The College Board has begun making preparations for varied testing dates for AP Exams. Parkway's decision regarding a date change for those tests will not be made until we return from the closure.

Information regarding date changes to the Michigan Merit Exam (SAT, M-Step and ACT Workkeys) is unknown at this time. We will continue to monitor for any updates.

God is with us. May God bless you and your families tonight.

In Christ,

Parkway Administration