

From: **Carter Payne** <lahs.info@laschools.net>

Date: Fri, Mar 27, 2020 at 12:10 PM

Subject: School Closure - What does this mean?

Good Afternoon Toppers!

Many of you have just heard that the **state has officially decided to keep school buildings closed through the remainder of the school year**. What does this mean for *us*? **Learning will continue!** It will look different from what we're used to, but we will move forward!

School staff and teachers are working on what this will look like and we'll make more detailed announcements early next week.

What we do know is:

- **We WILL have a graduation ceremony, and every effort will be made to make it as normal as possible.**
 - It may be postponed to a later date
 - It may be held outdoors to allow for additional spacing
 - It may be held online if an in-person ceremony is not possible.
 - **We need your feedback! Email with ideas and concerns.**
lahs.info@laschools.net
- **We WANT to hold prom, and will make every effort to make it happen.**
 - Dances are a face-to-face, close-contact event by their nature.
 - When the social-distancing recommendations are lifted, we will announce plans for Prom.
 - **We need your feedback! Email with ideas and concerns.**
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- **Grades will look different this semester.**
 - We were just finishing the 3rd Quarter when school was closed on 3/16.
 - Teachers are working to design a new kind of learning for Quarter 4 with different grading requirements, modes of delivery and feedback, and expectations.
 - **Per PED recommendation, students will be graded on a Pass/No Credit basis.**
 - Pass/No Credit grades DO show up on transcripts and count toward graduation requirements.
 - Pass/No Credit grades DO NOT count in a student's GPA.
 - A note will be added to all transcripts to describe the COVID closure and reason for P/NC grade
- **Learning will continue! But... right now students and staff are still on Spring Break.**
 - The school will post dates and times for "Teacher office hours" where you can ask questions and maybe even interact
 - Teachers, students and parents are hearing about this extension of the closure at the same time.
 - At the beginning of next week, teachers, students, and parents will get more information on:
 - Types of learning activities
 - A school-wide schedule for teacher office hours, online hangouts and video lessons (as applicable)
 - Learning options for students who cannot access online options.

- Plans for students to retrieve personal items / clean out lockers / pick up things they need from the school.

What you can do right now:

- **Reach out** - even though we are asked to practice physical distancing, it is more important than ever to balance your time with connecting socially
- **Identify a place at home for reading and school work** - this will help with concentration and focus
- **Remember to take breaks** - this new type of learning will be different

Our school community has been incredible. As our way of learning during the closure evolves, please reach out with your questions and concerns. **If you have questions or ideas about:**

- **Your classes:** Your teachers are available by email - Reach out!
- **Graduation requirements, scholarships, or social / emotional needs?**
Reach out to your school counselor by email
All 9th Grade: Michelle Harrison m.harrison@laschools.net
10th-12th Last Names A-G: Dawn Watkins r.watkins@laschools.net
10th-12th Last Names H-O: Cristin Haake c.haake@laschools.net
10th-12th Last Names P-Z: Cindy Black ca.black@laschools.net
- **General school-related questions, concerns, or ideas?**

Email lahs.info@laschools.net. Your administrators and school support staff will be checking and responding to these emails daily.

Enjoy the rest of your Spring Break, and stay tuned for more info next week!

~Mr. Payne

J. Carter Payne

Principal

[Los Alamos High School](#)