

Western School of Technology and Environmental Science

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April 2, 2020

Good Afternoon Western Tech Families:

I hope that you are all well. On Monday, April 6, 2020, our school community and all Baltimore County Public Schools will begin to implement a “Continuity of Learning” plan. The plan is predicated on providing new learning opportunities to our students.

For the last three weeks (March 16 – April 3), all assignments were designed to provide practice, reinforcement, and enrichment to our students. These assignments were non-graded assignments. As we begin to implement the “Continuity of Learning” plan, an accountability shift will take place for our students.

Moving forward, students will need to complete the mini-lessons that will be posted on Schoology. We understand that some students may not have access to a computer and/or the internet. For those students, a way to request materials will be provided and is forthcoming.

The following are the basic components of our virtual learning plan:

- Students will need to complete two mini-lessons (15-30 minutes each) per class per week. (The only exception is the week of April 6-13; only one mini-lesson per class will be due this week.)
- Teachers will post mini-lessons via Schoology by 8:00 am on Monday. (The only exception is the week of April 16-20, see attachment.)
- Students will self-pace through learning.
- Assignments for feedback will be submitted by students through Schoology by 11:59 pm on Friday of that week.
- Students may choose to participate in a Class Meeting and communicate with their teachers via Office Hours. The two attachments to this letter provide a visual representation of how we will schedule Class Meetings and Office Hours for the next two weeks.

Our faculty and staff have done an incredible job this week preparing for the next phase of our school closure. Naturally, next week will bring about new questions and challenges as we begin to implement the “Continuity of Learning” plan with students. I would ask that we continue to be patient with one another and work together to answer the questions and to overcome the challenges that come our way.

Finally, I want to thank you again for your continued support of our school community. We miss our students and hope that all our families are safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

BP

Murray G. “Buddy” Parker III, Principal



Raising the bar, Closing gaps, Preparing for our future