Items to be aware of for this upcoming week:

 Enjoy the day off from instruction and school tomorrow. Monday, January 18 is Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and an official holiday.   Schools are closed.

**A Word About This Wednesday, January 20**

Normally because of Monday’s holiday, Wednesday would be an instructional day with classes for students to attend, but BCPS has relabeled Wednesday, January 20 to be an asynchronous learning day. Some teachers may provide reviews and study sessions for final exams and discuss make-up assignments, classwork, and review concepts taught in class in the morning.  As usual,  the morning will also be designed to provide social and emotional support for students by connecting with a school counselor or school worker or school psychologist. Teachers will be involved in professional development in the afternoon.

**End of Course Final Exams**

Students in all of their four classes will participate in a final exam. Exams will take place beginning on Thursday, January 21. You can access the exam schedule by clicking the link below. The last day for semester one and the completion of earning the first 4 credits of the school year is Friday, January 29.

[Exam Schedule January 2021.pdf](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/GeOKD95Qv7CRgf8bIE55yQ~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh5dj0P0R1aHR0cHM6Ly9tc2cuc2Nob29sbWVzc2VuZ2VyLmNvbS9tLz9zPWtqTDhQZ1gtNXRnJm1hbD01OWQxY2RjY2Q3ODY5YmNkMTAxYzkwOWE1OTQ3ZGZmYzRmZDRiNjlmNzU2MmY2MTMxZTg5ZGRkZTg5NmY3ODlmVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf_XSlBGCyuGHAUg9zdGVubHlAYmNwcy5vcmdYBAAAAAE~)

**Reimaging Student Computers**

I was told on Friday that one BCPS DOIT technician will be in the building Tuesday, January 19 working to reimage desk top computers in the labs. All BCPS issued computers (not Chromebooks, they are exempt from reimaging) MUST be reimaged for reasons I’ve already mentioned multiple times. If you are one of the few who need to still have this done, drop your computer off in the cafeteria between 8 and 2.  This will be the last opportunity at Hereford High to have this done. Without the reimaging, I’m told virus protection and future important uploads cannot occur.

**Supporting Documents to Trouble Shoot Problems**

Our own tech liaison, Ms. Allison Zane, has put together an 8 page shared document on all Schoology grade level pages to address some of the most common issues that everyone has encountered over the last few weeks after having computers reimaged with step-by-step fixes.  IT’S A MUST READ for everyone regardless of whether your computer is working or not.  Click the link below and access and read this information before submitting a Tech Support Request form or calling the Help Desk at 443-809-4672.

Moving forward, all service concerns and replacement of computers must be granted and approved by DOIT tech people.  If you call or email Hereford High, as per BCPS instructions, you will now be referred to the Tech Support DOIT people by completing a request form or calling them at 443-809-4672.

[Student Device (Reimage) Instructions.pdf](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/a-SXdOlo0muMt3Emn8EQ_w~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh5dj0P0R1aHR0cHM6Ly9tc2cuc2Nob29sbWVzc2VuZ2VyLmNvbS9tLz9zPWtqTDhQZ1gtNXRnJm1hbD03M2I4OGQ0ZmE4Y2NlNTViZDM2MDZhNDQ2MWEwZmEwYmE2ZjRiODc3NmZiZjcyZTkwZGQ2ZDYwYTM5NTJiZTQ0VwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf_XSlBGCyuGHAUg9zdGVubHlAYmNwcy5vcmdYBAAAAAE~)

**PSAT at Hereford High School for Juniors Only**

The deadline for Juniors registering for the upcoming PSAT has now passed. 130 Juniors are scheduled to take the PSAT at Hereford on January 26 which will be an asynchronous Tuesday learning day for all other students. A Schoology Page has been created for all Juniors taking the SAT to discuss all COVID protocols and answer any questions.  In addition, a phone and email message to every student registered for the session was made on Friday, January 15, with information about testing day including bus transportation for those who need it. Contact Tracy Hanley at [thanley@bcps.org](mailto:thanley@bcps.org) via an email if you have any questions about the upcoming PSAT testing session.

**National Honor Society (NHS) Tutoring Services for all Students**

**Information On Applications to Join  the NHS if You Are a Sophomore or Junior**

With finals quickly approaching and the beginning of a new semester, the National Honor Society is excited to offer tutoring and study group services during Enrichment.  These daily supports will focus on a different subject each day:  Monday is Math, Tuesday is English, Wednesday is Science, Thursday is World Languages, and Friday is Social Studies. This is a great opportunity for students to get extra help in their classes. The link to sign up can be found in your child’s Class resource page under “NHS Tutoring.”

Applications for consideration to become a member of the National Honor Society are now available in Schoology.  Any interested sophomore or junior with a 3.30 cumulative GPA can access the application in the resource section of their Class of 2022 or Class of 2032 Schoology page.  All applications must be submitted via the Google form and are due by 2:45pm on Friday February 19th. No application after this deadline will be considered.

 Our two teachers, Jen Houseknecht and Ralph Causarano, oversee Hereford’s NHS.  Please contact them via email at [jhouseknecht@bcps.org](mailto:jhouseknecht@bcps.org) or [rcausarano@bcps.org](mailto:rcausarano@bcps.org) if you have any questions about the National Honor Society’s tutoring program or the NHS application process.

**Senior Portraits and LifeTouch**

Senior parents – According to LifeTouch there are still about 30 seniors who have still not had their senior portraits taken for the yearbook and graduation. We’ve scheduled LifeTouch one more time to the cafeteria at Hereford on February 12 for one last make-up session.  A card for your designated time of the shoot has been sent to your home and an email was sent to you via our Messenger system. If you do not plan on having your portrait taken, please call LifeTouch at 1-800-445-1191 to cancel. If you have any questions, call LifeTouch, not the school.

**Books and Materials Distribution for the Second Semester**

 The second semester and four new classes for students begins February 1st. At this time, we only plan to collect back a few texts and items from the first semester that are needed for the second semester classes. Teachers are coordinating this with their students now in classes.  All other materials and books will remain home at this time and collected at the end of this school year. Two pick-up evenings, February 1st and 2nd are set up for the distribution of materials for all students needing items for the second semester. Click the link below to learn more about material and book distribution dates and how it will work. I’ll have more about this next week.

[Student Instructional Items Pick Up (Winter 2021).pdf](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/6jmNpx-pyo0gvFmoB5sWeQ~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh5dj0P0R1aHR0cHM6Ly9tc2cuc2Nob29sbWVzc2VuZ2VyLmNvbS9tLz9zPWtqTDhQZ1gtNXRnJm1hbD05ZjUyMGI5NzBjY2E3ZGQ3MjgwOWJkMDgzZTkwNTQ2MGM0NTQ5YTU0ZjZhMmM5NWIwZDQ1YmYyYWU4NjgwNzJlVwdzY2hvb2xtQgpf_XSlBGCyuGHAUg9zdGVubHlAYmNwcy5vcmdYBAAAAAE~)

**Seniors and Celebrating Graduation**

 Please know that discussion has begun on the school and county level for our seniors and their graduation and what that can look like. A BCPS committee has been formed and I, along with other principals throughout the county schools, am a part of this. Different scenarios with school personnel about what can and can’t occur is occurring and all options are being discussed but at this time it is too early with too many unknowns regarding the planning of proms, picnics, parades, lawn signs and graduation.  Much depends on the governor and county executive mandated directives, vaccines, and the COVID infection metrics and what they will be in May. Towson University and other venues have been contacted and discussions are taking place about what graduation can and will look like. All options are on the table. Rest assured, all of us know what this graduating class over the last two years has missed out on because of COVID and want to celebrate their graduation in as special a way as we can.  But safely for the sake of all of us. I will keep you posted on information as graduation plans are discussed.

Joe Jira. Principal