Happy New Year Hereford High School Students and Parents –

My last communication to provide weekly updates was sent on Sunday, November 22, week 12, of the school year. After that the ransomware attack to BCPS systems occurred and since then although virtual classroom instruction resumed on Wednesday, December 2, it’s taken some time for BCPS to restore other systems that support instruction. Google Meet, Schoology, and email were back online in a capacity to deliver instruction in a few days. And now, BCPS has restored its Messenger System allowing me to communicate important school information once again to you.

As I have done in the past, I will continue to send Sunday messages home to highlight upcoming events. I will also continue to post these email messages in Schoology and on Hereford High’s website. BCPS continues to work to restore Schoology access to parents along with Guidance Office information systems which will hopefully soon allow us to distribute end of course report cards as well as student grades and transcripts to colleges. Please be patient. Hereford High’s secretaries and administrators are available daily to receive and answer phone calls to the Main Office or the Guidance Office. You can also send any of the administrators an email and expect a reply within one working day. But usually, administrators respond the same day you send the email. We are here ready to be of assistance.

A Word About Wednesday, January 6

Because this is a full week of school with instruction Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, Wednesday, January 6, is considered an instructional day for student asynchronous learning. It is an alternative to virtual instruction day for students designed to provide social and emotional support for students by connecting with a school counselor or school worker or school psychologist.

As we close out the first half of the school year and head toward final grades and prepare for final exams just a few weeks away, it is also a time for teachers to use to provide reviews and study sessions for final exams and to discuss make-up assignments, classwork, and review concepts taught in class. Again, students are strongly recommended to participate in these sessions.

End of Course Final Exams

Students in all four classes will participate in a final exam. Exams will take place the last two week in January beginning on Thursday, January 21. An exam schedule will be posted on the website for parents next week and all students will be made aware of details surrounding their final exam by their teachers.  Most teachers will begin reviewing for finals in the next two weeks. Remember, the purpose of the final exam is to assess and measure mastery of content for each of the four subjects taught during semester one.

Parent Access to Schoology

Due to the ransomware attack, parents are still not able to access their child’s Schoology information. However, with only a few weeks left to the end of the semester, it would be prudent on your part to use your child’s Schoology access code to review grades in his/her four courses to assure your child is on track for success. The semester ends January 30.

PSAT at Hereford High School

As of right now, the PSAT testing is still scheduled to be administered for Juniors on January 26, at Hereford High School.  All COVID protocols and class modifications will be in place and currently about 85 juniors have registered to participate. The deadline for registration for this event was Wednesday, December 16, 2020.  However, any additional juniors interested in registering for the January 26 PSAT can be added to Hereford’s roster by contacting Tracy Hanley at thanley@bcps.org via an email.  For all late students registering, transportation will not be provided. The final deadline for late registration for students participating in this PSAT will be Tuesday, January 19, 2021.

Registration for classes for 2021-2022

Information and a schedule were sent home in November with report cards and homeroom teachers have been sharing appointments with set up by counselors for their students. Ninth grade students registered in December. Tenth and Eleventh grade students will register for courses throughout January. Counselors are having one on one meeting with their students to select appropriate classes for next school year based on teacher recommendations and current course enrollment and performance.

If you were not aware this was happening, you should ask your child when his/her appointment is scheduled and follow-up on the discussion and choices that were made.

Device Reimaging and Replacement

According to the Department of Instructional Technology (DOIT), all student devices MUST be reimaged over the next two weeks.The following information below was provided to parents and students before the winter holiday. If you did not do this before the winter break, you must schedule an appointment over the next two weeks. Please read and follow directions by clicking on the link and setting up an appointment to have the reimaging completed at Hereford High School.

High school student device reimaging will continue from January 5 through January 19, 2021 by appointment only. Every student who has a working BCPS-issued device (not Chromebook) must schedule a reimaging appointment using the following link below this paragraph. Reimaging will occur at all high school sites to ensure student accessibility. Please report to Hereford High School’s cafeteria following the directions below for your confirmed reimaging appointment. Students are reminded to bring their chargers.

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054EAAA72EA5FE3-hsstudent8](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/2omEB6gxo_40R-Dr2yg4-g~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRh02deP0TjaHR0cDovL3RyYWNrLnNwZS5zY2hvb2xtZXNzZW5nZXIuY29tL2YvYS9qUVhoTG42a3g4eXFHTF9iYmFQOEdnfn4vQUFBQUFRQX4vUmdSaHhJNVJQMFE5YUhSMGNITTZMeTkzZDNjdWMybG5iblZ3WjJWdWFYVnpMbU52YlM5bmJ5ODVNRFF3TlRSRlFVRkJOekpGUVRWR1JUTXRhSE56ZEhWa1pXNTBPRmNIYzJOb2IyOXNiVUlLWDlyUld1TmZVMmMxM0ZJT2JHcHBjbUZBWW1Od2N5NXZjbWRZQkFBQUFBRX5XB3NjaG9vbG1CCl_a3jPyX1X4V5ZSD3N0ZW5seUBiY3BzLm9yZ1gEAAAAAQ~~)

**For working devices,** students will have the option to:

1. Drop off the device, leave a phone number and receive a text message to come back to pick up a reimaged device.
2. Drop off the device and wait for a reimaged device (approximately 45 minutes – 2 hours)

**Students with broken devices** should enter a service ticket and should not sign up for a slot.  Broken devices will not be replaced onsite.

**Students who were not issued a device**should enter a service ticket.  Devices will not be provided to students without a device.

Please be prepared to stay in your vehicle and wear a face covering as you interact with staff members onsite. If you are not feeling well, please stay home.  All health and safety mitigation strategies including social distancing and the wearing of face coverings will be implemented during all appointments.

**Schedule**

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| **Date** | **Audience** | **Hours** |
| January 5, 2021 | Grade 12 | 10:00 am – 5:00 pm |
| January 6, 2021 | Grade 12 | 8:30 am – 3:30 pm |
| January 7, 2021 | Grade 11 | 8:30 am – 3:30 pm |
| January 8, 2021 | Grade 11 | 8:30 am – 3:30 pm |
| January 11, 2021 | Grade 11 (am)Grade 10 (pm) | 8:30 am – 3:30 pm |
| January 12, 2021 | Grade 10 | 8:30 am – 3:30 pm |
| January 13, 2021 | Grade 10 | 8:30 am – 3:30 pm |
| January 14, 2021 | Grade 9 | 8:30 am – 3:30 pm |
| January 15, 2021 | Grade 9 | 8:30 am – 3:30 pm |
| January 19, 2021 | Grade 9 | 8:30 am – 3:30 pm |
| *\*Dependent on weather.  Any snow days will be rescheduled after January 19, 2021.* |
| *Middle School and Elementary School schedules will be shared after winter break.* |