

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



Dear Students and Families,

This week marks our fourth week of remote learning! I have only been a Commander for a year, and I am grieving the loss of seeing and interacting with my Commander Community on a daily basis. Therefore, I can only imagine the loss you are feeling. I know this weekend was a struggle for many of you who were looking forward to Prom. The only solace I can offer is that we will do our best to plan a super fun Prom-like event when it is safe to convene in large groups.

Remember: "Human beings are social creatures... [S]imply to exist as a normal human being requires interaction with other people." - Atul Gawande

Commanders, please take advantage of the many opportunities we provide to make VIRTUAL connections:

1. Monday Advisory Meets -- see your Advisor's Schoology page for information about Monday live advisory sessions and the Meet addresses
2. BAM Squad Challenges-- Participate in the BAM SQUAD challenges: <https://tinyurl.com/bamsquadchallenge>
Check out the BAM SQUAD here: <https://tinyurl.com/bamsquadlipsync>, Remember to get your challenge videos into the JFK Flipgrid by Monday! (<https://flipgrid.com/jfk2020>)
3. Commander Check In Video on Wednesday -- *JFK Staff and members of Student Council will create a Commander Check in video to update you on important information and on the #Anchor Fun Challenge for the week*
4. Commander Fun Sessions with City Year, Ms. Claire, and the BAM Squad + Gunnar every day at 2PM, see Schoology each day for more information
5. Office hours with your teachers, see their Schoology pages for more information

Please reach out to me directly if you have suggestions for Senior Celebrations and Virtual Connections for all Commanders. Your voice strengthens our community.

With LOVE and Gratitude,
Tiffany Almon
Your Proud Principal
tiffany_almon@dpsk12.org

UPDATES FOR THE WEEK:

- ★ **Teacher Appreciation Week** is NEXT WEEK (5/4 -5/8) and we are looking for students to express their gratitude by creating a 15-30 second video clip AND/OR writing individual emails to your teachers to thank them for everything they do to make JFK the BEST HIGH SCHOOL in Denver. Please email Tiffany Almon at tiffany_almon@dpsk12.org if you are able to participate in spreading the love to our teachers and paraprofessionals.
- ★ Class of 2021 and 2022 -- Interested in becoming a Link Crew Leader?
 1. View the introductory video in your advisory meeting this Monday.
 2. Complete this online application - **Due by May 8th** → <https://tinyurl.com/JFKLinkApplication>
 3. Keep a lookout for an email in your school account for our first virtual meeting on **May 15th** and save the date in advance! Email Mrs. Sarlo crystal_sarlo@dpsk12.org or Mrs. Pineda ibonne_pineda@dpsk12.org if you have any questions.

Summer Internships -- a message from Ms. Aragon

Due to the COVID-19 virus, our CareerConnect department has been working diligently to offer summer remote internships. We are hopeful there will be some opportunities, so please stay tuned!

Here is an update on the following career pathways and programs:

- Aerospace Academy – Pending remote experience
- BusinessConnect – Possible remote experience
- CreativeConnect – Possible remote experience
- EngineeringConnect – Possible remote experience
- MedConnect - *Due to our city's medical industry, they may not be able to participate in this summer's remote internship program. However, we will keep you posted on any changes.*

Summer Remote Internship Dates:

If our summer remote internship program is approved our start date will be Monday, July 6, to Friday, August 7. We appreciate your patience as we work through this trying time. If you have any questions please feel free to email Mrs. Aragon at anne_aragon@dpsk12.org. My Google phone number is 720-460-9239. Thank you!

Grading Guidance

READ THE [DOCUMENT LINKED HERE](#) CAREFULLY FROM TOP TO BOTTOM. Mrs. Almon and the leadership team will have a Q and A about Grading on Tuesday the 21st from 4 -5 PM via Google Meet. Follow this link to join: meet.google.com/cei-kaub-tgf

Students, if you would like to **choose the Credit/No Credit option** for one or more of your classes, as a family, please use this [Google Form](#) **by 4/29/20** to determine which courses you will choose to earn Credit instead of a letter grade. The form includes pros and cons for choosing the Credit/No Credit to guide your choice.

JFK Relief Fund

Many of you have reached out regarding hardships you are overcoming as well as personal losses you have experienced during the pandemic. In order to be a support for our families in need, we have put together a Go Fund Me to pay for food baskets and other relief items. Follow this link to [donate](#) to Commander families who need the support of our community to make ends meet and stay healthy during this tough time. On the flip side, if you are in need, email Tiffany Almon at tiffany_almon@dpsk12.org to indicate your need and we will do whatever we can to help you out, while keeping your situation private.

Counseling Center Updates:

Counselors are available for appointments through Setmore: <https://jfkcounseling.setmore.com/>
Check out our School Counseling and Mental Health Team [website](#) for more information.

[JFK Counseling Resources Click Here](#)

[JFK Mental Health Resources Click Here](#)

SENIOR CELEBRATIONS

Seniors, we know that the culmination of your k-12 education is going nowhere near to plan, and our hearts and love go out to each of you as you navigate the wave of emotions and challenges this time brings. The Commander Community is planning some fun and memorable moments for you as your Senior year comes to a close. We know that these events and tokens are nothing compared to ending your Senior year TOGETHER, but we hope they bring you joy and help you see how special you are and how proud we are of you.

- ★ SENIOR GRADUATE YARD SIGNS -- your personalized Senior Yard Signs are in production and will be ready for delivery or pick up soon!
- ★ SENIOR SHOUT OUTS -- Follow this [link](#) to shout out a Senior on our webpage and Instagram page. We'd love to shout out every Senior between now and the end of the year!

- ★ Special commemorative Senior keepsakes will be delivered or available for pick up in mid May with the Senior Pics, Yearbooks, and Caps and Gowns.
- ★ DAY OF GRADUATION -- we will have a special online celebration and ceremony planned.
- ★ FUTURE IN-PERSON CEREMONY -- to be determined as soon as it is safe to convene.
- ★ We will be honoring our senior student-athletes during the week of May 4th. Please be on the lookout for videos and posts from our coaches during that time frame.
- ★ We will be hosting a virtual signing day for Cruz Ortega, more details to come!
- ★ Senior Announcements will be shipped directly to families' homes. We do not have a date, but are working with Balfour to make this happen asap.

FAQs

What about Senior Check Out? We will create a detailed plan shortly regarding Senior check out and share asap.

How do I receive my Senior Pictures and Cap and Gown?

We are creating Senior packages to be safely distributed to Seniors with all items you've already purchased as well as some special treats. Details coming.

When will Graduation be rescheduled?

We will reschedule Graduation as soon as it is safe to reconvene as larger groups. We are planning something special virtually for the day Graduation was originally planned on **5/28**. Stay tuned for details.

Can I still buy a cap and gown? Yes, contact Laurentz Gilmore at laurentz_gilmore@dpsk12.org

Can I get the personal items I left in my locker?

If you have any items that are essential to meeting your basic needs over the next few months, please contact Ryan Aichele, our Dean of Operations, at ryan_aichele@dpsk12.org as he is beginning to plan how families can pick up these items. You will need to give him your student ID, name, locker number, and a description of the item(s). We are only planning to distribute items that are essential to meeting your basic needs at this time. If you are a Senior, you will receive your locker items at Senior Check Out.

I still don't understand how this works!

You can find all the information you need for Remote Learning under the remote learning tab on our website jfk.dpsk12.org, you can access the Student Guidance doc [here](#).

How do I get on track during remote learning?

Contact your counselor to determine ways to get back on track through Edgenuity. We will be hosting a Junior Class Meeting virtually and will send out details soon.

If you have QUESTIONS, please enter them on this [Google Form](#) which will be posted to the website for you to access as questions arise, and a staff member will reach out to you via text or email with an answer.

REMINDERS and Celebrations:

- **The Future Center is hosting Office Hours you can sign up on the Schoology group for Seniors, or [HERE](#) for Ms. Emily and [HERE](#) for Ms. Ambria.**
 - The DSF application is STILL Open!! All [eligible](#) students still can apply!
- **Huge shout out to the following students who received scholarships (contact us if you earn a scholarship, we want to celebrate you!):**
 - Claudia Loya received the Inspired Leaders CORE scholarship from Regis, which is a full tuition scholarship!
 - Jaylantis London Brown received the 4 - year Denver Alumnae Chapter Scholarship. She was also recently recognized as a Sachs Foundation Scholar.
 - Brian Tran was accepted to Columbia, Georgetown and UCD BSMD program which provides a clear path to CU Denver Anschutz school of medicine from an undergrad degree.
 - Krist Tran was also accepted to Cal Berkeley in their Chemistry Program.
 - Tam Nguyen is a Daniels Scholar receiving a full ride for all 4 years to her choice of CSU
 - Jocelyn Gonzalez is a Boettcher Scholar also receiving a full ride to CU Boulder to study Architecture.
 - Thuy (Suzie) Pham received the Musical Scholarship from Regis, which gives her a monetary reward and offers her free lessons in any instrument of her choice while at school. She auditioned on drums.

- **Ways we will take attendance and build community during remote learning --**

1. **Mondays** -- Google Meet Advisory meeting -- *your advisor will send you the meeting invite and times by the end of this week.*
2. **Wednesdays** -- Commander Check In -- *JFK Staff and members of Student Council will create a Commander Check in video to update you on important information and on the #Anchor Fun Challenge for the week*
3. **Fridays**-- Your teachers will grade your work and provide feedback, if you do not turn your work in at the end of each week (by Thursday 4PM), a member of the JFK staff will call you to make sure you are okay and have access to the learning the following Monday.
4. **Mondays through Thursdays** -- your teachers will host office hours to answer your questions and provide instruction; our mental health providers and counselors will be available by appointment, and your Admin will be available by email or phone any weekday from 8am to 4pm.

Information about our JFK Remote Learning plan is found on our website (jfk.dpsk12.org), and you can find your student and family guidance document [here](#). Check your email and Schoology everyday!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND LINKS:

- **MEETING YOUR BASIC NEEDS**

- Information for Grab and Go Meal Centers found [here](#)
- **If you need immediate Mental Health support** please call 1-877-542-7233 or visit <https://safe2tell.org/> which will provide an anonymous way to help someone who is struggling or hurting.
- If you are inquiring about DPS free medical clinics during the extended break: [Denver Health at Lincoln High School](#)

- **TECH NEEDS**

- If you still need a Chromebook please contact rick_brewer@dpsk12.org
- **Link to Comcast's offer for FREE INTERNET for two months to low income households**
- Technology related problem? Call 720.423.3163 (English & Spanish)

- **CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION**

- If you are reporting confirmed and presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 and/or have questions about COVID-19, please visit the [DPS Corona Virus](#) page.

Important Upcoming Dates

5/15 -- Tentative Last Day for Seniors to turn in assignments

5/20 - 5/21 - Tentative Senior Check Out Dates

5/22 -- Last day for students to turn in assignments

5/28 -- VIRTUAL Graduation Ceremony

ARCHIVED UPDATES and REMINDERS linked [HERE](#)

Commanders Show P.R.I.D.E.

P professionalism

R respect

I inclusion

D dedication

E excellence

We are Stronger Together! ¡Somos más fuertes Unidos! ĐOÀN KẾT LÀ SỨC MẠNH