



CHRISTIAN BROTHERS ACADEMY

850 Newman Springs Road • Lincroft, NJ 07738-1698

CBA parents and students:

You all remain in my thoughts and prayers as we continue with this paradigm shift in education due to our current circumstances. This is certainly not in the nature of CBA, a school that thrives on social contact, brotherhood, and camaraderie between students and teachers as a key to students' development, but we will continue to adapt. As I am sure you have all heard, the social distancing mandate has been extended through April 30, making our earliest possible return date May 4. The reality is that it could be even later than that or not at all this year.

This reality, which mandates continued social distancing and therefore continued online instruction well past the original date(s) we were hoping for, once again requires that we evolve in the delivery of that instruction. When we begin formal instruction again following the Easter holidays on April 20, there will be regularly scheduled live instruction that students will be required to attend. Our plan is to lay out a schedule that provides more contact and live student support, while still offering some flexibility given the myriad of issues families are facing at home right now. For the remainder of this week before Easter break, all students should attend their normal Tuesday and Wednesday virtual sessions, as well as any additional sessions scheduled by individual teachers throughout the week. The first three days of Easter break, April 6-8, will be allotted for any make up work students still need to complete. Furthermore, our Student Council and some of our extracurricular clubs are planning a few activities and virtual meetings over the Easter break to keep CBA connected. Details of the new schedule will be sent out at the end of this week.

The College Board has been working on changes to AP exams, which reportedly includes online, remote exams that are abridged so as to not include some of the material normally taught toward the end of the year. A definitive announcement from the College Board on APs is forthcoming on this Friday April 3. Likewise, CBA will be revamping its own final exams, which normally conclude the school year. There are a number of options being explored right now.

We at CBA are committed to returning this year, if at all possible, and if so we will extend the school year for our seniors and bring them back for at least one, or possibly two weeks. We will have to wait and see, however, if it is even possible to return at all. I know this is a trying time for our entire community and some families are affected far more than others depending on their own unique circumstances. As I said in this morning's prayer, let us pray for God's continued grace in this situation; may he strengthen us to forge ahead, though the future may seem uncertain.

God Bless our CBA community,

R. Ross Fales