



DHS UPDATES: April 16, 2020

Below are reminders and updates for the week! For previous DHS Updates please visit our website here: [DHS Weekly Updates](#). All are encouraged to follow DHS on Twitter at [@TweetDHS](#) and to use the Danvers Public Schools app. and the [DHS website](#) to keep up to date on all things Falcons. We are here to help and to be sure every student is getting what they need to succeed!

Thank you for all of your support and caring during these challenging times. We look forward to continuing to work together and support each other as a Danvers community!

1. **School Closure** - DHS will be closed until May 4th.

2. **April Vacation** - As a reminder, the Danvers School Committee voted in favor of using the 4 days from April vacation (Tuesday, April 21st - Friday, April 24th) for remote learning. The last day of the 2019-2020 school will now be the 181st day - June 18th.

3. **Spring 2020 MCAS Update** - Message from Commissioner Riley - "With the federal testing waiver secured and the state legislation officially enacted, I can now confirm that this spring's regular administration of MCAS in grades 3-10 is cancelled."

4. USDOE - Positive behavioral interventions and supports (PBIS)

The use of PBIS is especially helpful when events disrupt normal routines – events like worldwide health pandemics. This practice brief provides recommendations for families and caregivers on how to use PBIS to continue to support their students' social and emotional growth and minimize behavioral disruptions in the home. <https://www.pbis.org/resource/supporting-families-with-pbis-at-home>

5. **DHS Remote Learning Plan Update** - the next phase of our Remote Learning Plan has begun. As a reminder, here is an overview of the plan until May 4th:

April 6th - May 4th:

Students will be given credit for submitting work assigned between April 6th and May 4th. Students should be checking their Google Classroom pages for assignments. Please contact us with questions. Special education questions can be directed to your child(ren)'s special education liaison. Teachers will also be available for office hours each school day to answer questions and support students.

Please encourage and remind students to check their Google Classrooms and Danvers email accounts each day to stay current on assignments and important updates.

Additional information can be found on the Danvers Public Schools website: [Remote Learning Frequently Asked Questions](#)

6. **Update: Report Cards - Quarter 3** ended on April 9th for all students, including Seniors. All quarter 3 courses will be graded on a Pass/Fail (Credit/No Credit) basis. Quarter 3 grades will not be included in GPA or class rank calculations. Credit will not be withheld for any student due to access challenges. We will support families and be flexible during these challenging times.

7. **2020 AP Exams** - The College Board has released the revised exam schedule for this Spring. Please be sure to mark your calendars and continue your preparation on AP Central (<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/>). Families can now pay for this year's AP exams using eFunds, and is the preferred method of payment. Log in the same as if you were going to pay athletic or other school fees. All AP families received a letter dated February 21, 2020 with the exact amount due. In eFunds you will select AP exams and enter the same amount and submit payment. Please email Mr. Emberley (emberley@danvers.org) with any questions on AP exams or payments.

8. The deadline for **Scholarships** has been extended to May 8th. Students are encouraged to submit applications that can be mailed or submitted electronically.

9. **Spring 2020 Athletics Season** - The MIAA announced they have moved back the start of the Spring 2020 season to May 4th.

10. Class of 2020 - we are all thinking of our Seniors and will continue to work with families and students to think creatively on how to continue to make senior year a special one! We do have some updates for the Class of 2020:

-The Internship Program has been canceled this year

-The last school day for Seniors will be May 29th.

-We are actively collaborating with students and families around ways to celebrate the Class of 2020 and ensure their senior year is a special one!

-We will continue to keep our community updated on plans for graduation, prom and other senior activities.

11. College and Career Support: Students and families please visit the **DHS Virtual Counseling Center** that has been set up by your school counselors and social workers to help you with time management, post secondary planning, social emotional support, and class specific activities. This site will continue to be updated so continue to check back frequently. Reach out to any of us with any questions or concerns.

<https://sites.google.com/danvers.org/dhs-counseling-department/>

12. Social Distancing and Preventative Care - We urge families to follow the guidance and direction from Governor Baker, including practicing social distancing and preventative care. More details on the COVID-19 outbreak can be found at [mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov).

13. **Census** - With the recent developments surrounding virtual classes, there are still important functions we must attend to which include being counted in the 2020 Census. This mandatory headcount happens once every decade and every person in the Commonwealth must be counted in their community.

This count is vital as it determines federal and state funding, which go to services that we rely upon every single day including education, public health, public transportation, and services that will benefit our children for the next 10 years. As such, having an accurate count is critical for our community and we do not want any of our services to be shortchanged.

We want to stress the importance that every person in your household be counted, including newborns and the very young. The funding for services will benefit them as they develop and grow and a response is crucial to an accurate count. The next opportunity to secure more funding for these services will be another decade from now. We also want to note that this information is completely confidential and your information is never shared with any other agency.

Please respond as soon as possible and be counted—it's quick and easy. You can respond online at my2020census.gov. If you have additional questions or need language support to respond over the phone, please visit 2020census.gov.

It only takes a few minutes to complete but will have a great impact on our lives. Thank you for ensuring an accurate count for our community and for your children.

Closing

We will continue to post daily announcements on Google Classroom pages (Class of 2023 page, etc.).

Stay safe and stay strong Danvers High School!

Best,

Jason
Jason Colombino, Ph.D.
Principal
Danvers High School
colombino@danvers.org
978.777.8925, ext. 2200