



Hollicong Community,

We hope you are well! I am monitoring and adjusting to share some great news! In the middle of typing this communication my cell phone rang with the name “Robert Kibbe” displayed. I immediately stopped what I was doing and can share that Mr. Kibbe is back home from his deployment and safe back in the United States! We have been worried about him for the past year as he has served our country overseas. We know we have people out there with similar stories like Mr. Kibbe. We have nurses, doctors, EMT’s, others who are working during this situation to provide essential services, families whose loved ones are sick and you can’t see them...the list is long and no way to express my thoughts as well as I would like other than to say we are thinking of you and want to help...and the not “being able to help the way we want” makes us feel helpless. I think the timing of Mr. Kibbe’s call was meant to be. My initial intent was to only include logistics for Phase 2 but this was a reminder for all of us (me included) to take a step back as a community from some of the stresses associated with the coming weeks and focus on the most important goal. That goal is for you all to be safe.

I realize the logistics and expectations below for our Phase 2 Plan are important and do not want to minimize that stress or the overall education of our students (that is why I am do this and feel fortunate every single day) but the health and well-being of the children and others in our community supersede anything else - that is the case when we are inside the walls of Hollicong and that is the case now. Thank you for allowing me to share these sentiments (and not articulately as I would have liked) but I was getting “in the weeds” a bit and this allowed me to take a step back. With that said...I have adjusted the format of what I am including as well based on news from the district regarding lunches going forward. We tried to cover many different aspects as we could and included the context as best we could (along with tangible resources). We again want to remind all of our students that this is new to all of us and expect a learning curve! Our teachers and all of us are going to be flexible and understanding and appreciate that you have done the same in return!

- 1) **Lunches** – I realize that the learning plan is forefront on many students minds...but not the priority in the larger scope of things in terms of what is taking place right now in our community. The reality is that we have families that may be struggling financially due to the strain of our new reality. This is a delicate topic in email and worth noting that we will continue to distribute lunches at on Monday & Thursday at CB East. This is open to any and all students and families that need support. It is also a reminder that we have cover a large area that goes all the way down to Bristol Road. With that in mind, we have been working with Mrs. Pigford to help us with folks that may not be able to get to us at Hollicong. She has been amazing and we will continue to work with her every Monday & Thursday and deliver. If you are in a situation where you could benefit from a delivery...please reach out to me or Donna Radice at [dradice@cbsd.org](mailto:dradice@cbsd.org) and we will make sure we can get this to you.
- 2) **Working Schedule** – We have attached a schedule template that helps explain how the schedule will look for each week. Please note that each week will now be designated an “A” or “B” week for specials class purposes. As promised, we have also attached copies of a schedule that Mrs. Maio used that is very specific (a template and ones filled out by her children as a model). These are very detailed and can be updated as needed for work each week...in a sense to replace the agenda book. We thank her for this and very helpful for those of us who are a little “Type A” like me!
  - **Schedule Next Week** – In order to provide consistent learning activities for the next week and into Monday, we had to adjust and clarify next Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Monday. The “make up days” will consist of asynchronous activities in order to provide students and teachers flexibility, while maintaining consistency and time for all classes to engage in course priority standards. It is worth noting again (sorry to sound like a broken record) that teachers will be flexible with this work during this time and the adjustment allow for continuity of curriculum for all students. We will also put these on the calendar.

**Wednesday, April 8** – Students will complete asynchronous work posted for Periods 5A and 6A;

**Thursday, April 9** – No distance learning will take place.



- **Make up day for Period 7A in Middle School will be April 17.** Students will complete asynchronous work for Period 7A

**Friday, April 10 – Religious Holiday** – No Distance Learning will take place

**Monday, April 13** – No distance learning will take place.

- **Make up day for Periods 1B and 2B in Middle School will be Friday, April 24.** *Students:* Middle School - Complete asynchronous work for Periods 1B and 2B.

- 3) **Attendance & Grading** – Teachers will not be taking official attendance in Infinite Campus for attending classes. Attendance will be based on the Pass/Fail model and that students will be considered in attendance if they complete 70% proficiency in the work they complete and submit. Teachers will work with students but this is why it is essential that students stay on top of their work. We realize that this is a stressful time for us all and the district has modified our system to allow for this flexibility by creating the schedule. Our guidance counselors, administrators and teachers will work together with the students who are not submitting work but also ask our parents and students to reach out proactively to teachers if you are struggling or need additional support. We are here to help!
- 4) **Communication** – We have “reformatted” the [Distance Learning page!](#) This will still act as our home base for all resources & communication regarding Distance Learning. We will continue to do a “shortened” Daily Announcement & utilize the Holicong calendar for upcoming events as well!
- 5) **Advisory** – We hope you enjoyed our Advisory Community activities and thank Mrs. Ritter, Mrs. Flath & Ms. O’Brien, Ms. Levin, Mrs. Davidson, Mr. Cochran (and sorry if I left someone out) for helping create these and all of you who participated in our challenges! We will keep these posted by going forward the plan for Advisory is noted in the schedule attached.
  - a. **Monday & Wednesday** – These are designated toward our “Daily Read” and ask that you read a book for pleasure!
  - b. **Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday** – We have created activities that will be shared across all 5 middle schools that focus on Social-Emotional wellness. We will include these in the updates and post on the website.
  - c. **Attendance** – There is no attendance needed and you will not be reaching out to Advisory teachers. This time on the schedule and these activities were created in an effort to ensure we were “staying true” to the values we created when we adjusted the Middle School Schedule in terms of social-emotional wellness. Our goal at Holicong is the “hope” that many of these activities and “lessons” are appropriate for the entire family and you can participate as a group...but please know they are not meant to be completed during that time frame specifically and not mandatory. The reality is that while we think they are worthy and more worthy now then ever based on our situation...they are not mandatory and no accountability measure. However, we are keeping the challenges and hope you participate!
- 6) **Resource** – Please use this time to do any work you can for your classes, complete the advisory or wellness activities, revisit your goals...or do your laundry! Teachers will not be available “live” during this time based on the schedule.
- 7) **Online Rules & Behavior** – We don’t expect this to be an issue but important to review the expectations for behavior online. In short, the rules that apply “virtually” are the same at Holicong...and in our current situation and the trust that is needed to do this work...our expectations are even higher (if that is possible). We have attached a resource for students and parents along with the acceptable use policy. We have heard of stories about students in other places making inappropriate comments during chats, posting memes of students or staff taken from online calls, and other behaviors. This is a good time for a **“We don’t do that at Holicong”** and a reminder that now more than ever we need to be compassionate, kind and inclusive...and any behaviors of the sort above cannot happen and “we were trying to be funny” is just not acceptable at this time. We ask our for our parents to support this message as well!