

April 22nd, 2020

Hello Phoenix Charter Academy Lawrence,

We hope that you and your families are well and healthy during this very difficult time. First and foremost, we want to **THANK YOU** for all you've done to support your students' learning from home. We know that you have been relentless and committed, as always, to your student's success. We could not do this without you so **THANK YOU!**

Today, we are writing to inform all students and adult supporters of the extension of school closing through June 19th, 2020. Governor Baker announced yesterday that all Massachusetts schools will remain closed through the end of the school year. As a school community we are missing all our students dearly and look forward to the day that we will be reunited with them. We know that we will do so when we can ensure the safety of each and every single one of them and their families. For now, we will adjust to remote learning and continue to provide the academic and emotional support that our students deserve and need most. We know that the impact of COVID-19 on our communities (Lawrence, Haverhill and Methuen) has continued to grow in the past two weeks and we will continue to make ourselves available to support our students and their families.

During this closure, we will continue to offer remote learning services to all of our students. Teachers, support staff and administrators will continue to prioritize learning from home and support all students and families to achieve academically. We take our responsibility to educate your students very seriously and will do our best to promote learning and safety during this uneasy time. Here's important information regarding the learning time:

- ❖ *Students are expected to dedicate 2-3 hours to academic work per day on Google Classroom*
 - *Here's a tutorial for how to access: [PCA Lawrence - Google Classroom Tutorial \(English\)](#)*
- ❖ *Live teacher support for all classes are available 12:00pm-4:00pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday via Google Hangout*
- ❖ *Your student's Primary Person (academic advisor) will continue to serve as the primary contact to ensure academic progress. He or she will be in touch with you and your students every 2 days for academic and wellness check-ins*
- ❖ *See the tips included here to support your student and follow us on our Facebook page "Phoenix Academy Lawrence" to stay informed*



DISTANCE LEARNING AT PHOENIX
Tips for students and adult supporters.

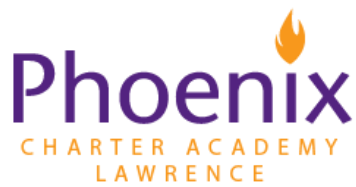
FIND A WORK SPACE
Find a space in your home to set up your Chromebook and assignments. Keep all school-related materials in one place.

MINIMIZE DISTRACTIONS
Find a time of the day when you can pause other responsibilities to focus on classwork.

GOOGLE CLASSROOM
Log-in to Google Classroom every day. Set aside at least 2-3 hours per day to complete academic work.

JOIN GOOGLE HANGOUTS FOR EXTRA HELP
Your teachers have virtual office hours every day and are available to answer any questions you may have about your assignments.

TAKE BREAKS
If you're feeling frustrated or overwhelmed by the academic work, take a 5-minute break. If after a break you find yourself still struggling, text or call your teacher for help!



We continue to urge all families to follow state guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please see the list below for precautions that you and your family can take to keep yourselves healthy.

Dos:

- Follow the state's Stay at Home Advisory: Stay home unless you need essential items
- Keep 6 feet of space between you and others: If you must leave the house, stay at least 6 feet away
- Connect with others virtually: Connect with families and friends via video chat and phone calls
- Go on outdoor walks: Drive to a park or go on a hike outdoors and remember the 6-foot rule
- Reach out if you're struggling: If you start to feel low or are struggling during this time of isolation, please call **1-800-985-5990** or text **TalkWithUs to 66746** to connect with a trained crisis counselor.

We thank you for your continued support; we are lucky to be part of this amazing learning community. If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at 781-808-1153.

Best,

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