

Dear VVS students,

I hope this note finds you healthy and safe. It is too quiet around here, and I am a little heartbroken as I imagine Sunday evening without the bus rolling in and a quad full of shrieking, hugging students. That said, I am comforted knowing that we are doing all we can to keep our community safe during this difficult time.

While I certainly wish circumstances were different, I am confident that the VVS faculty - truly the most talented, innovative, and dedicated team of educators with whom I have ever had the privilege of working - will be able to pivot effectively next week when we to begin preparing for the roll-out of our VVS remote learning program on March 30th.

Seniors, we have been granted extensions for submission of IB assessments. For the most up-to-date information from the IB, please refer to their webpage [here](#). Please reach out directly to Andy with questions about IB assessments.

The College Counseling team will be reaching out to seniors next week to arrange remote meetings. We are happy to meet remotely with your families as well should you have questions about college acceptances and financial aid offers.

While I am fervent in my belief that there is no way to replicate online the real-life, human-to-human magic of academic life in a VVS classroom, we are going to put everything we have into maximizing the best tools we can find to create an online program that will enable student-student collaboration, teacher-student feedback, opportunities for discussion, and a consistent interface for locating class resources.

We are very fortunate that our faculty and students are already well-versed in utilizing Google Classroom as a tool for posting assignments and class resources, submitting assignments, and providing feedback on student work. We will continue to use this platform to manage academic classes at VVS; however, we will be expanding our tool-kit to include video conferencing for both live and recorded classes. More information including login instructions will be sent via email next week.

Students, we are committed to finding creative ways to approximate online as many elements of VVS life as we can in the coming weeks. Don't be surprised if your Advisor invites you to Advisee lunch via Google Hangout or if your Field Trip leader reaches out to arrange a Field Trip reunion and offer you a virtual S'more via Zoom. At VVS, our people are everything to us. Rest assured that we will do all we can to nurture and sustain our greatest asset, our community, while we are apart.

Students, please complete [this survey](#) before Friday March 20th so we have accurate information about your technology access prior to next week.

All the best,



Meg Haesloop
Director of Academics and College Counseling