

I know you are not used to getting my emails at a time other than 6:00, but I just felt like I need to speak to you on several topics.

By now I can assume you are aware that we are now closed until April 24th, per the governor's request this afternoon. I know you have many, many questions and we are all working to get you and your students answers. These are unprecedented times and information is coming into our school system leaders sometimes on an hourly basis! Remember that we are at the mercy of many decision-makers above Dr. Phillips's level as well. With all this in mind, I can assure you, that other than you as their parents, Dr. Phillips, our Instruction Department and myself, care deeply about doing what is in the best interest of our students!

Primarily, we are awaiting further information from the state department of education regarding any waivers of graduation requirements for seniors. I know there are many seniors who were to take quarter 4 required classes (Government, Economics, Personal Finance, etc). As soon as there is definitive information we will get it to you ASAP. Just know that we will not leave seniors hanging. We will all do what is necessary to help everyone graduate. Please know this, I have twice gone to an athletic field to hold an alternate graduation ceremony for our students. I WILL NOT allow an entire class to go without a graduation ceremony! No matter when we go back we will have some type of graduation ceremony.

Remember our Grab and Go meal program begins tomorrow. Please refer to this for locations and information: [Grab and Go Meals](#)

You should have received information earlier about Dual Enrollment Classes through Volunteer State as well as information from Mrs. Brody for those who are enrolled in virtual classes through Edgenuity.

Our Instruction Department is working tirelessly to get resources and best practices together to help our students stay on track with their classes. We see this as a unique opportunity, without any state testing requirements, to allow teachers the opportunity to give students enrichment activities that will be engaging and covering material that we might not always get to focus on.

Part of the legislation our state leaders passed last week included a waiver of the 180-day school requirement. We will not have to extend the school year into the summer!

I am supposed to get an email tomorrow with alternative dates that would be available in May to reschedule the prom. We will work hard to reschedule prom, but if we need to cancel or you cannot attend on the new date we will be providing full refunds.

Be on the lookout tomorrow morning for a message directly to parents on the Sumner County Schools Facebook page. I am not privy to what this will contain but I am hopeful you will find it informative and helpful.

To close, I ask that you be patient with everyone in leadership as we get new information. Our county leadership is working tirelessly to craft policy and decisions that are in our student's best interest. Sometimes that takes time, but I am confident that the information will be forthcoming in as timely a manner as possible.

I hope you all stay safe and free from this virus! Thank you for all you do to support Hendersonville High School and our students.

Bob