



March 15, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The closure of schools has impacted what we do daily, and we want to keep learning at the center of our daily routines. Learning during this time will be affected, and we will need to be patient with each other as we work through challenges. Information you need to know about students' learning at IHSNO will be shared more frequently in the coming days and may include changes as we gather more information.

### **Distance Learning**

We are planning on the best ways to deliver instruction to all students and work with students who do not have immediate access to the internet. We want to ensure learning is ongoing. During this time, we will update the website:

- with each teacher and staff member email addresses;
- displaying each subject;
- include Google Classroom links, and;
- listing all courses, and the classes will have links to the work that needs to be done.

Teachers will be using Google Classroom to monitor work. To make this work, we need your information in our system to be updated. We need your address, home phone number, cell phone number, and email address. We will be sending important information throughout this time and want to make sure you are receiving all the information. Additionally, we will be using the IHSNO website, [www.ihsnola.org](http://www.ihsnola.org), to relay information. The website can be accessed using a smartphone or any device that has internet connectivity.

### **Internet Access:**

Limited income households can apply for the \$5 to \$10 per month internet access through [AT&T](#), [Cox Connect2Compete](#), and [CenturyLink Lifeline](#). [Charter Communication](#) will offer free Spectrum broadband and Wi-Fi access for 60 days for homes with students from kindergarten to college who do not already have a subscription.



The FCC has launched the Keep American Connected Pledge, which many internet providers have signed. For the next 60 days, internet providers will:

- Not terminate service to any residential customer because they cannot pay their bill due to coronavirus pandemic;
- Waive late fees that residential customer incurs because of their economic circumstances
- Open its Wi-Fi hotspots to any family who needs them

### **State Testing**

We are awaiting guidance from the Louisiana Department of Education about testing. What we know is that the Department of Education will continue moving forward with spring testing. We will share information as it becomes available. The ACT scheduled for March 17, 2020, has been postponed until further notice.

### **Food Service**

The LDE will keep a list of schools serving breakfast and lunch during social distancing. As IHSNO students come from several parishes, we will not be providing food service during this time. The list of food service providers will be updated periodically. [Department of Education Food Service Sites](#) can be accessed beginning next week to see the list of schools providing punch.

### **COVID-19 Social Distancing**

To minimize the spread of COVID-19 virus will work best if everyone uses social distance as possible and practice proper hygiene. If students and employees mingle, it may disrupt the reasons for isolation. The same is true for travel to known impacted areas. The school building will not be open to students and parents during this time, and all campus activities and sporting events have been canceled.

The most up-to-date information and resources on COVID-19 are available at the following websites:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - [CDC](#)
- City of New Orleans - <https://ready.nola.gov/home/>

In service,



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CEO/ Head of School