August 17, 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Hornets’ Nest! It is my indeed pleasure to welcome you to a new school year! In just a few short weeks the Surrattsville High School family will welcome over 700 students to our “new normal” our eLearning Program. I will be the first to admit that this is NOT the way I envisioned opening school year 2020-2021, however, I, along with my team are ready for the challenge. Our theme for this year is We are Better Together.

Our eLearning Program will focus on the following pillars we believe to be integral to the overall success of our students; Robust Instructional Program and Support, Communication, Building Rapport, and Social-Emotional Support. We firmly believe that if we are successful in these areas, our school community will have a successful school year. We are in a very unique position, COVID 19 is transforming the way in which students learn and the way in which teachers teach. We have the opportunity to not only be a part of this transformation, but we have the opportunity to write the Surrattsville High School narrative of how our students excelled during these unprecedented times. We are rising to the challenge and we understand the expectation from our parents, to nurture and support our students, because of this we are grounded in our belief that “we are better together”.

This letter contains very important information and dates, please read it entirely:

- **Distribution Days**: The designated days for the distribution of instructional materials and Chromebook devices will take place on August 24th & August 27. *Nationally, there has been a high demand for the procurement of electronic devices, which has resulted in delay of receiving them for PGCPS. We have placed an order for our students and are awaiting delivery. If your child is currently utilizing a personal device in the home, we ask that they continue to do so until our order is received. We anticipate that additional devices will be available by September 21, 2020. Once received, you will be notified and a date and time will be scheduled for you to pick up a device. Your understanding is appreciated.*
- **Parent Portal Contact person information**: Teresa Pettigrew (Teresa.Pettigrew@pgcps.org)
- **Person for students to contact for assistance for email log-on assistance**: Dino Harper (dino.harper@pgcps.org)
- **Back to School Night**: September 22, 2020 @ 6:30 pm
Mock "Orientation" Day - Friday, August 28, 2020 @ 7:45AM
All students will participate in a virtual walkthrough of all the classes on their schedule. Students will use their device to meet their teachers for a short period of time. Google classroom or Zoom codes, the virtual platforms being used for this day, will be shared with students through their PGCPS email.

Materials Distribution Day
We have scheduled materials/Chromebook distribution day for two days to ensure that we are enforcing social distancing. Parents/students will be required to wear a mask. Only 15 students will be allowed to enter the building at one time, please pack your patience, a smile and do your best to adhere to the identified date for your student. If there are questions, please contact the front office.

Please adhere to the following materials/laptop distribution schedule:

- 9th Grade - Monday, August 24, 2020 (8:00 am - 11:00 am)
- 10th Grade - Monday, August 24, 2020 (12:00 noon - 3:00 pm)
- 11th Grade – Thursday, August 27, 2020 (8:00 am – 11:00 am)
- 12th Grade – Thursday, August 27, 2020 (12:00 noon – 3:00 pm)

Professional School Counselors
Our professional school counselors are here to support students as they matriculate through high school. Please contact the grade level counselor for your student if you need assistance with class schedules, SAT/PSAT registration or an appointment for a parent/teacher conference.

9th/10th Grade – Mrs. Cynthia Pegues – cynthia.pegues@pgcps.org
11th/12th Grade – Mrs. Kirsten Simpkins – kirste.simpkins@pgcps.org
School Registrar – Mrs. DeShane Thomas – deshane.thomas@pgcps.org
Guidance Secretary – Mrs. Harriet Puller – harriet.puller@pgcps.org

Unfortunately, we will not be conducting schedule changes unless it is necessary to meet graduation requirements.

Virtual Learning
As we prepare for the 2020 - 2021 school year, it is important to remember that your student will need support to establish successful practices that will maximize their achievement.

- Create a work space for your student and help establish a routine.
- Maintenance of school supplies to assist with instruction.
- Have breakfast or a snack before you begin your day.
- Develop a schedule for consistency.
- Attendance will be taken for every class. Be prompt to class and be prepared.
- Email is the best way to communicate with a teacher. Allow teachers 24 - 48 hours to respond.
• **We are better together.** If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact a teacher, school counselor, grade level administrator or any staff member of Surrattsville High School.

**Points of Contact:**

**Administrative Team**
- 9th Grade - Mr. Thornton Boone – thornton.boone@pgcps.org
- 10th/11th Grade – Mrs. Sandra Gasaway – sandra.gasaway@pgcps.org
- 12th Grade – Dr. Monique Jeffery – monqiue.jeffery@pgcps.org
- Regional Wing Coordinator - Mrs. Kishara Perry – kishara.perry@pgcps.org

**Main Office**
- Mrs. Teresa Pettigrew (Attendance Secretary) – teresa.pettigrew@pgcps.org
- Ms. LaKeasha Bernet (Principal’s Secretary) – lakeasha.bernett@pgcps.org
- Mrs. Keisha Hensley (Financial Secretary) – keisha.hensley@pgcps.org
- Mrs. Zekia Murphy (Special Education Secretary) – zekia.campbell@pgcps.org

**Support**
- Ms. Jocelyn Isom (Pupil Personnel Worker) - jocelyn.isom@pgcps.org
- Ms. Giuseppina Spillane (SPED Chair) – Giuseppina.spillane@pgcps.org
- Ms. Nachelle Davis (Parent Engagement Assistant) – nachelle.davis@pgcps.org

In closing, I want thank you for trusting us to bring the best virtual learning experience to your students. There is no doubt we will make some mistakes, none of us have ever walked this path before, however, your belief that we are in the right place at the right time together means a lot. Feel free to contact me at Katrina.Lamont@pgcps.org

**We ARE better TOGETHER!**

Sincerely,

Katrina D. Lamont
Principal
“Home of the Hornets”