

Dear Lee-Scott Academy Families:

I hope this letter finds you and your family doing well. Our fourth quarter of school looks much different than what we originally had planned. In the past 6 weeks, we have all witnessed many unprecedented changes in our daily lives. As the governor made the decision to close schools for our safety, we made a shift to Digital Learning. We are fortunate that our school was well prepared for this transition. I applaud our LSA staff for rising to the challenge of educating our students in a very unfamiliar setting. We have more than 700 students, and our teachers have made direct contact with all of them. I also commend our students for choosing to take on an active role in the continuation of their education. Finally, I am so appreciative to all the parents and guardians who have encouraged and supported their children during this endeavor. Together we are all guiding our students through a monumental period in history. We appreciate your trust, cooperation and flexibility as we have shifted to a new way of serving our students.

Alabama's COVID-19 status is evolving daily. Every school is struggling with what decisions are the "right" ones to make and, in many instances, we may not know what is "right" until we have the benefit of hindsight. Even then, we may not know. With that in mind, the "right" decision is one that considers public health guidance, the law, your school's mission and culture, and your community's safety. In keeping with our school mission of providing an environment where students are protected, the Board of Trustees along with the school's administration have decided to stay the course with Digital Learning for the remainder of the school year. Fourth quarter instruction for all grade levels will end Friday, May 8, 2020. Optional instructional activities will be available during the week of May 11 - 15, 2020. Students and teachers may use the week of May 11 - 15 for make up work for missed assignments and study sessions for AP Exams.

Below is the most up-to-date information.

- Last Day of Remote Learning
  - Lower School:
    - Friday, May 8, 2020
  - Upper School:
    - Friday, May 8, 2020
- Curriculum
  - Critical standards have been identified for each content area for each grade level. These standards are considered important as students work their way through the course progression for each content area.
- Grades - Q4
  - Lower School
    - Rather than grades, our focus is ensuring that our students are gaining exposure to 4th quarter critical standards. Although we are hopeful that all students are able to participate, we know that this will be varied, depending on the circumstances of individual families (ex. students staying away from home for child care, internet access, age/independence level, parents working in critical care positions, etc.). Teachers are documenting standards and individual participation for the next grade level to use for each child's instructional progress. No child will be retained as a result of 4th quarter grades.
    - Pass/Fail grades will be utilized for the fourth quarter with distribution of narrative report cards to show standards covered.
  - Upper School

- Due to Carnegie units and course credits being earned for course work, traditional letter grades (A - F) will be awarded based on the student's mastery of content standards.
- Upper School Final Exams
  - All final exams are waived for second semester
- Community Service Hours Reduction
  - Seniors (Class of 2020): No further community services hours are required
  - Juniors (Class of 2021): Community Service Hours requirement reduced to 60
- Standardized Testing
  - ASPIRE - Cancelled
    - The summative versions of ASPIRE standardized tests have been canceled for this school year. The great news is that we have completed and documented our formative assessments and have 3 full quarters of data for this year. We will use this data and resume STAR and ASPIRE interim testing in the first few weeks of 2020-2021 to assist in driving our instruction.
  - AP
    - Here is the schedule for all online AP testing:
      - AP Literature : Wednesday, May 13 1:00
      - AP Euro Hy: Wednesday, May 13 3:00
      - AP US Hy: Friday, May 15 1:00
      - AP Lang: Wednesday, May 20 1:00
      - AP Macro: Thursday, May 21 3:00
    - All testing will be online and each test will be 45 minutes. Students may use any smart device. They should also know the updates to the specific content that will be tested.
    - It's recommended that each student log in to their College Board account and view the YouTube Live videos that are available. Additional resources are accessible as well on this platform.
- Events
  - Concerts (Band and Choral) - Cancelled
  - Musical - Cancelled
  - Prom - Cancelled
  - Awards Day
    - Lower School: Cancelled
    - Upper School: Virtual (watch social media)
  - Baccalaureate - Cancelled
  - Graduation
    - 6th Grade: Cancelled
    - Upper School: TBD (plans are being made that will comply with ADPH guidelines)
    - Upper School Graduation Fees: Reduced to \$50
  - Field Day - Cancelled
  - Field Trips/Camps (Lower School) - Cancelled
  - EOY Class Parties - Cancelled
- After School Care
  - Fees will not be collected for April and May

We wish to express gratitude to our entire community of families, staff, volunteers, and community partners for your patience and support during these uncertain times. Although our buildings remain closed, we will continue to meet the academic and social-emotional needs of our students and families. During this time, while we are staying at home, find ways to give hope. Find ways to show love. Be a good neighbor. Remember that in order to have empathy for others, we need to have empathy for ourselves. We are here for you and ask that you be there for others as well.