

COVID-19 Update: 03-20-2020

Good evening Stone Academy Community,

I promise tonight's message will be straight to the point, starting with a brief recap of this week's activities and then what to expect next week.

This week all of our coursework was developed within the Blackboard platform, faculty received training on the platform, and all should have their login information to the courses they are teaching. We have been actively addressing any technological needs that have arisen from students or faculty and will continue our efforts in this area on Monday, when students begin to resume their coursework.

Beginning next week each campus will have a single administrator on-site and the remainder will begin working remotely. We have implemented a new phone system to connect our staff and the new numbers for each campus are as follows:

West Haven: (475) 256-0855

Waterbury: (475) 252-3178

East Hartford: (860) 390-4478

Effective Monday, March 23, 2020 students will begin receiving their login information for Blackboard. As I stated in yesterday's communication, please don't be concerned if you do not receive your registration for every course you were previously taking. Courses will gradually go live throughout the week.

Today our Student Advisors reached out to students, starting with those closest to the end of their program, regarding clinical experiences and our Clinical Supervisors have notified relevant faculty. Our efforts in this area will develop over the course of next week, so please be patient as we work to address the situation.

Today Governor Lamont announced an executive order asking non-essential employees to stay safe and stay home. We will be analyzing the language of this executive order and provide updates as to how it may effect Stone Academy.

I recognize that a great deal of our students, staff, and faculty are healthcare professionals and will be considered essential employees. Even students engaging in clinical duties are serving as essential personnel for the facilities they may be at. It is because of this that I want to express how appreciative I am of your sacrifice to serve mankind in this extraordinary time of need. I know there will be long days ahead, and this may get harder before it gets easier, but the compassionate care you provide in the binding that will hold humanity together as we face this crisis.

To all of us that are not healthcare professionals, I urge you to support them in any way possible. In my immediate family my sister, brother, mother, and wife are all nurses and I will endeavor to be there for them, as they are there for so many others.

Be kind to each other and stay safe.

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Sincerely,

Joseph M. Bierbaum
President