



Staff Town Hall

24 April 2020 / 3:00PM / Zoom Meeting

Updates

- **Announcements**

- We will be using Kahoot, we now have a professional license. Please reach out if you are interested in using the software.
- Polling Questions:
 - We will begin doing poll check-ins with the group starting today, thank you all for participating.

- **Professional Development**

- The District will be setting aside \$1.6 million for training for faculty for remote and distance learning.
- The DE coordinators have forwarded a 1-year plan for this development that has already been approved by the district.
- This will include additional help, capacity, and classes throughout the district.

- **Devices**

- We have received feedback from the students advising that the message they were getting regarding the Chromebooks was very confusing.
- The District has updated the message so that it is much easier for the students

- **COVID-19**

- Regarding the Governor's press conference:
 - Lots of talk on ways to get the country back running, but this is only happening in very rural areas across the nation so far.
 - Our Governor does not believe opening up is worth risking lives at this time, so California will continue to follow the Stay at Home guidelines.

- We do not know if there will be a surge or a decrease in the curve because we don't know enough to securely and safely open our state.
 - The COVID-19 numbers have gone up fast in LA but a lot of that is due to testing results being delayed.
 - Students attending 4-year universities will not have housing in the Fall, which raises lots of concern. This also applies for cafeterias, and student union halls on campuses.
 - If there is some return, it will be limited, and students will still have to wear masks. The return will be very restrictive.
- **Resources**
 - The Foundation is working on making printing available through Office Depot.
 - All students that were awarded the emergency grants through the Foundation should have received their checks.
- **Student Survey**
 - A survey gauging the students' experiences in studying/learning remotely & assessing any challenges that they are facing at home was sent out District wide last week and will close on Sunday, April 26, 2020.
 - We asked whether or not they felt they were getting the information that they needed from their respective faculty / college and majority of the students replied yes.
 - The final results of the survey will be in sometime next week and I will share the responses with you all.
- **Graduation**
 - We are disappointed to announce that no in-person ceremony will be taking place in June.
 - A virtual graduation will still take place and it is important that it is a quality graduation.
 - It will be our 90th graduation, we will still have a face-to-face ceremony in the future.
 - The students who are coordinating the ceremony do not want to call it a 'graduation' per se. They proposed a new title: Virtual Resignation :Resilient Times for Brilliant Minds.
 - We are hoping to have some Alumni send messages to the students.
 - The Chancellor will also have a message for the students.
 - We are likely going to have more speakers for the ceremony now that the ceremony will take place online and people can send in video messages.
 - We are working with vendors and others who are willing to donate cap and gown materials to students.

- A meeting for the ceremony will be held next week and we will keep everyone updated.
- **Year-End Productions**
 - Students put on various year-end productions every year
 - We are working on possibly setting aside some time for all of us to view these projects together.
 - This will be similar to a virtual concert .
- **90th Anniversary**
 - We initially had hoped to have a party on **June 5th** to celebrate our 90th anniversary, but we have to now improvise due to COVID-19.
 - I spoke with the Music Department about having a Zoom party and having music from each decade playing at the party.
 - Expect a survey to be sent soon to provide feedback on this idea.
- **Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship**
 - One of the largest scholarships for transfer students.
 - Congratulations to our very own recipient **Mariam Alaverdian!** She is a RBScholar and President Scholar! Mariam is the second President's Scholar to receive this in the 7 years of the program.

Q&A

Q: You mentioned in one of your meetings about possibly finishing the semester on 6/30. Can we allow certain students who were affected directly by the COVID 19 virus to finish then, as opposed to 6/8?

A: I will certainly put the question out to Academic Affairs and get back to you.

Q: Where is the one-year DE plan published?

A: I am not sure, but I will find out and get back to you in the next newsletter.

Q: Will faculty get home access to Adobe Suite? We used to have it on our private laptops, it is on our work computers now, and many need it to adapt to semester changes.

A: I am not sure, but I will find out that information and provide an answer in the next newsletter.

Q: Will all students be given an EW who withdrew this semester?

A: Yes, all students will be given an EW.